The Literary Digest

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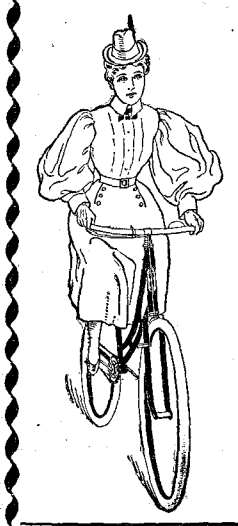

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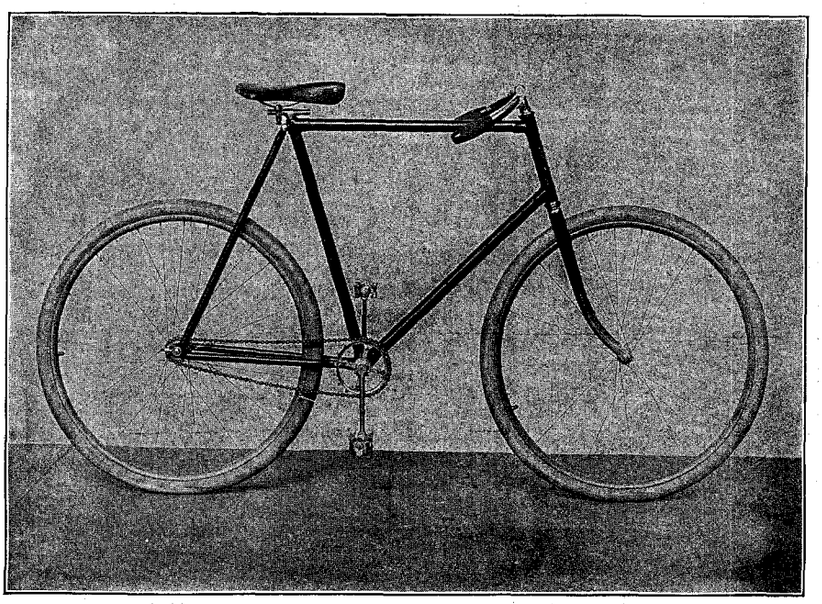

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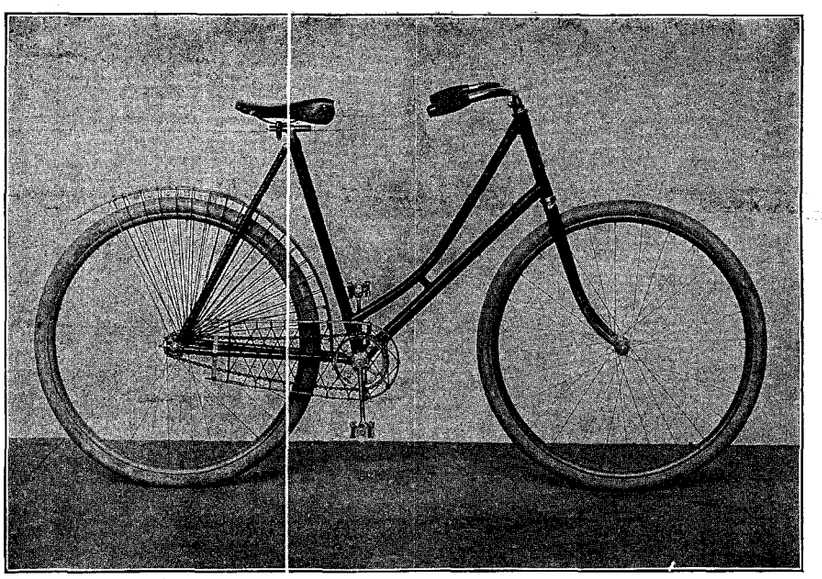

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

WANAMAKER ON BREAKING PARTY TIES.

JOHN WANAMAKER has set the newspapers to talking at a great rate, by making a radical anti-party speech before the Business Men's League in Philadelphia. His utterances are the more widely quoted because of his position in the business world, his record as Postmaster-General under President Harrison, and his party associations, marked, only a few months ago, by an unsuccessful candidacy for the United States Senatorship from Pennsylvania. In the course of his speech Mr. Wanamaker asserted that the country is not prosperous; half a year had passed since Election Day, which had been fixed by party, press, and political leaders for good times to begin. He continued:

"Thus far but one of the most important issues of the campaign is nearing settlement and hardly any noticeable improvement of the wretched times is manifest. The tide will soon set in strongly against the Republican Party unless the depression of business is altered. Idleness and want breed a bitter discontent, which will never be overcome until there are ample employments.

"The foes America has to fear are not the sullen, savage Turks, nor the insurrectionists of Cuba, nor the territory-grasping British, but they are our own patient and heart-tired people, our own suffering, much-promised people, who, betrayed and disheartened, no longer have faith in their party, and will turn to any leaderships that offer promise of better times, believing that worse times can never come than those now existing. It is a terrible thing to observe public sentiment adrift and uncaptained and the people sweeping away from their affection to the old party.

"The young men are growing up indifferent to Republican principles, with no respect for parties of broken platforms, who use national and state patronage in payment of election contracts. The political religion of the nation is falling lower and lower under insults to intelligence, violation of law, reckless daring of unscrupulous bosses. There are immeasurable depths of misfortune for this nation and State if the continued use of corporate and public moneys and the disposition of federal and state patronage continues to be controlled in the interest of office-holders to hold office for themselves and to benefit those who desire to keep government contracts or maintain particular protections through the money by which elections are decided.

"There will most assuredly come a day when there will be a mighty revolt and resistance, resulting in a revolution that will give birth to a new political party. Laws continually despised and disregarded, legislation conceived for blackmailing purposes, speculation by public officials in trust and other stocks, while tariffs and other financial bills are pending, must surely and irrevocably alienate the people from their party and awaken a disposition and desperation to substitute almost any wild and untried leadership with the hope of possible relief."

Mr. Wanamaker added some specific criticism of "one-man" state conventions and government, referred to newspapers which accept the situation and are silent in the face of the gravest issues, and urged patient, steady opposition to break the shackles. In a subsequent interview for the New York *Mail and Express* Mr. Wanamaker reaffirmed the substance of his speech, expressing confidence, however, in President McKinley and his Cabinet and in the Republican Party's capacity and ability to deal with the questions entrusted to it. But delay in tariff legislation in the Senate, dillydallying with the currency question, and the do-nothing policy of the House were criticized in particular. He said:

"I believe there are 1,000,000 men who would stand up to-morrow and applaud President McKinley if he were to deny to every office-holder a place until the tariff, at least, is settled. In saying this, I am not speaking as a manufacturer, for I long since left that long-suffering class. I speak as one whose concern is the same as the great mass of business men interested in the general prosperity. . . .

"I wanted to impress them [the business men] that they can not afford to let the country drift aimlessly while Congressmen and Senators, elected to attend to law-making upon which our business prosperity depends, are out of their seats when needed at Washington, or are calmly accepting delays that embarrass and thwart the very purpose and hope which the people had in mind when they voted together last fall in such overwhelming numbers, irrespective of party."

A Man with a Disappointment.—"The attention given by members of the Cabinet to the recent embittered address of Mr. John Wanamaker is rather more than it deserves. Mr. Wanamaker is a man with a disappointment, who is nursing a grievance, and his views are naturally a little dark-colored. The Administration has probably failed to meet the Philadelphia merchant's expectations because it failed to recognize the 'National Business Men's League of Philadelphia' in the distribution of state patronage and did recognize the state party organization. Uncle John Sherman's quick eye caught the real difficulty without effort.

"Mr. Wanamaker, as a matter of fact, has no cause for complaint either against the Republican Party or the McKinley Administration. The party conferred high honors upon him until he made himself an issue for a clique of discredited politicians. So far as the party pledges are concerned they are being fulfilled as rapidly as a slow and doubtful Senate can be made to fulfil them. The fault in that quarter does not lie with Senators Quay and Penrose, either, but with those Senators who, like Wanamaker, have become dissatisfied with the Republican Party because they have been unable to use it for their own selfish ends.

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"If Mr. Wanamaker really wants a new party of his own, however, he can probably have a contingent of the combine for a nucleus, provided that he will pay the expense. The combine leaders are not very well satisfied and at least some of their followers will go whichever way the barrel is rolled. Meantime the Republican Party has pretty good reasons for being satisfied with itself and for enjoying the confidence of the people."—*The Dispatch* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Pittsburg*.

Question of Good Politics.—"Nobody seems to have reckoned on a House of Representatives composed of men each of whom has as his chief aim a reelection next year. These gentlemen would perhaps say to the man who is remembered for raising $400,000 for the Harrison campaign fund, that the President is taking care of the currency question. And has he not sent a commission of able financiers to Europe to arrange for a reform of the currency just as it was promised he would do? What more can the country ask?

"Your average member of the majority in Congress has no intention of mixing up in any legislative action which is liable to influence his reelection so long as it is not necessary. The tariff he could not escape. When it becomes impossible longer to avoid the currency question, and retain any hope of a re-election, it will be taken up also.

"Mr. Wanamaker has been in politics enough to know that all political parties make the public good secondary to party advantage. It would not be good politics for the party in control of the Government to move any faster in the currency matter so long before another election, knowing as its leaders do that the currency will be the issue in the next campaign as it was in the last."—*The State Journal* (*Rep.*), *Topeka, Kas.*

Ungenerous Criticism.—"It is generally believed that the passage of a satisfactory revenue and tariff bill will be followed by an immediate improvement in all lines of business. It is the first, and perhaps the most important step in a series of measures required to lift the country out of the slough of despond into which the delusive siren song of 'tariff reform' misled it—and so long as the President is straining every nerve to expedite its adoption, it is rather ungenerous on the part of a man of Wanamaker's standing and antecedents to cast such a slur as that embodied in his Philadelphia speech. If Mr. Wanamaker is too good to train any longer with the Republican Party there is nothing to prevent him from organizing another, or even from flocking all by himself."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *Minneapolis*.

Wanamaker Should Go Further.—"The ex-Postmaster-General has been a member of a very rich set of Republicans who are believed to have supplied much of the means with which the unscrupulous bosses to whom he refers have corrupted the franchise and reduced the standard of political morality. These rich men in the State of Pennsylvania have reaped the fruits of their sowing by finding themselves so completely in the power of the machine they have built up that they can not break their bonds. Their efforts to free their own State from boss rule have met with dismal failure.

"Mere talk of forming a new party to regenerate the nation is cheap and ineffective. The thing to do is to expose the evil wherever and in whatsoever form it may exist, and to use any instrument that may be convenient to defeat it. Mr. Wanamaker should begin the work of regeneration in himself and at home. Let him confess his sins and tell all he knows. Let him overthrow the bosses of his own party by joining with all who are opposed to them. Let him prove his faith by his works in the regeneration of Pennsylvania. With a repentant Manufacturers' Club and a purified Pennsylvania as a faith-offering, the country will be disposed to accept Mr. Wanamaker's profession of political repentance and to join with him in the work of elevating political religion."—*The Republic* (*Dem.*), *St. Louis*.

The Rise of a New Party.—"Honest John predicted a 'new political party' as the outcome of the public degeneracy. If that were all we had to expect the result would give us very little concern. But that is by no means the worst. The danger is that we shall drift along in this scheme of politics that has no religion but the love of money and what money will procure, until we shall turn into a Socialism in which all men aim at living upon the Government, and the laziest and most skilled thimble-riggers live best. If a new party should rise up that founded itself upon the everlasting principles of Democracy, that all men should stand upon the same footing before the laws without favors from these to any or disabilities and punishments to any, we should welcome that party as the salvation of the republic.

"And it will come too, if the Democratic Party persists in the course that it adopted last summer at Chicago. It looks to us as if events were so shaping themselves that the Republican Party was to become a mere shell, filled with spoilsmen and plunderers, and the Democratic Party a collection of wild men bent upon overthrowing all that is fixed and settled in the country, and that the earnest, progressive men of America were going to come together upon the foundation ideas of true Democracy and start our country upon a new road to progress and prosperity."—*The Times* (*Nat. Dem.*), *Richmond, Va.*

The Bankers' Song.—"The mourners go about the streets, and John Wanamaker heads the procession. But he mourns as one hired by the undertaker. He wails because Congress does not hurry up an increase of taxes; and he mourns at the fear that Congress will not hurry up legislation on the monetary question. This is equivalent to an explanation in advance why the new tariff law does not restore prosperity. Only now has this commenced. We must not only be secure against silver legislation; we must not only have high protective duties on imports; but we must put the sovereign power to create money into the hands of the banks, and let them set the paper-mills to running. No prosperity can come except through the enrichment of bankers and brokers. We must have a Government of the bankers, by the bankers, and for the bankers. So says Wanamaker, and he knows, for the bankers who keep him afloat must have given him the song he sings."—*The Enquirer* (*Bryan Dem.*), *Cincinnati*.

Promises of Good Times.—"There is no question that the voters of the country will turn against the Republican Party at the polls if better times do not set in. They have always 'rebuked' an Administration in this way when times were bad, and whether it is responsible for the existing depression or not, the Republican Party is bound to suffer for it, unless an improvement takes place before election day. As Mr. Wanamaker says, the people 'will turn to any leadership that offers promises of better times, believing that worse times can never come than those now existing.' And that is not saying that they will find themselves any better off in the end. If the voters of the United States conclude in 1898 and 1900 to experiment with Bryanism as a cure for their present troubles they will find that they have only jumped from the frying-pan into the fire."—*The Journal* (*Ind.*), *Providence, R. I.*

"The promises of the Republican orators and leaders last fall were definite. It was asserted and reasserted that the election of Mr. McKinley meant not only prosperity, but immediate prosperity. It was to date from the morning of November 4, when the wheels in the mills would begin to revolve again, when the workshops would hum; when money would be plentiful again and labor all employed. Here and there a man protested against the recklessness of these promises, but the mendacious politician deceived not only the workingman, but the business man as well, and if the Republican Party is to reap the whirlwind it alone is responsible."—*The Tribune* (*Sil. Rep.*), *Detroit*.

Republicans Can Not Bring Prosperity.—"These words, coming from such a notable Republican as ex-Postmaster Wanamaker, are highly significant. They sound like a song of the dying swan. The Republican Party finds itself disintegrating in the very hour of its triumph, and there is no help for it. Instead of prosperity obeying its beck and call idleness and discontent are the gaunt companions of its rule. . . . The masses of the people ask no legislation on their own behalf; they do not need it; all they ask is that the laws which have been enacted for the benefit of trusts and money-sharks shall be wiped from the statute-books, and that the Government shall confine its sphere to the legitimate ends of rendering justice and maintaining order instead of becoming the tool of corporate rapacity and Shylock greed. When a political party that is owned by stock-jobbers and money-kings comes into power it means further legislation for filching the wealth of the masses and transferring it to the pockets of the few, and certainly the doings of such a party have a direct effect upon the times, for the longer its rule is continued the greater the pov-

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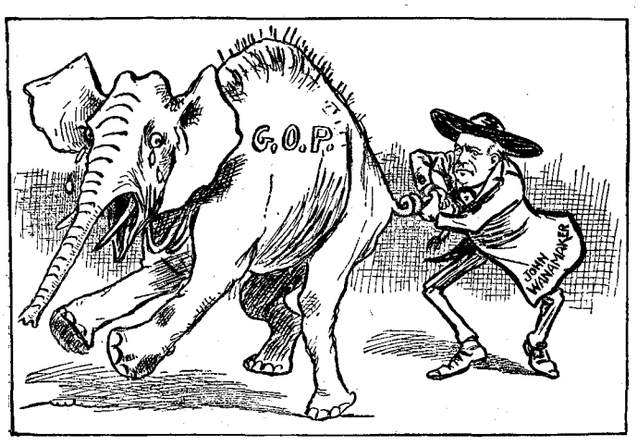
erty and the less the prosperity of the people."—*The Sentinel (Bryan Dem.), Indianapolis.*

"It is not such a terrible thing to see 'public sentiment adrift and uncaptained' if only it has broken entirely away from bondage to the gross and pestilent delusion that government can make people prosperous by tariff taxation or currency dilution. But if public sentiment is drifting from paternalism in one form or degree to paternalism in a worse form or greater degree it is a terrible thing indeed. If people abandon one party because it fails to work the miracles it has promised only to join themselves to another party promising to work still greater miracles, they will merely go from bad superstition to worse and from deep to still deeper disappointment."—*The Chronicle (Nat. Dem.), Chicago.*

Conditions that Promise Well.—"It is likely enough that in making his statement that a new party must come, Mr. Wanamaker, being as he is a resident of Philadelphia, had in mind the condition in his own city and State. In other parts of the Union there are conditions that promise well if only the unrest of the people can be guided. The defeat of the attempt to foist upon the State of Illinois a fifty-year charter for all trolley roads is an argument for the optimist. The people have won in that notable fight and they are sure to win in other political struggles. The great trusts are being attacked all over the country. The public is gradually becoming educated in the science and philosophy of government. The years will be few indeed before there will be state and municipal business undertakings on economic grounds—because the people can not otherwise protect themselves. Talk as we will, politics is business for the people as for the corporations. There must be something more in the suffrage than a means of protecting the people from ordinary thieves, thugs, and incendiaries. Our civilization has grown too complex for any other theory. The people are in the possession of the powers of government that they may protect themselves in almost everything that pertains to their physical, mental, and moral well-being.

"Now so far as the present parties are concerned they are all trying to carry out ideas of good government as they judge good government. In the successful parties these efforts are frequently neutralized by spoilsmen and other selfishly interested persons. If these men do not get what they want they are placated with difficulty. If not placated they join some other party or become for the time political assassins. It is to these men that the criticism of Mr. Wanamaker is directed. He confuses these men with the party. The Republican Party in its last national canvass showed what could be accomplished against these. Its success ought to be very precious to Mr. Wanamaker, for it defeated the aspirations of his otherwise victorious enemy, Senator Quay. It also relegated Senator Thomas C. Platt to a place 'outside the breastworks' at least in national affairs. The way to secure reform in party methods when reform seems necessary is for the good men to attend to their political duties, having no offices to ask for themselves or friends, content to serve as ordinary citizens, so that government is administered for the benefit of all regardless of condition."—*The Post (Rep.), Hartford.*



THE ELEPHANT: "Great Scott, another anarchist!"
—*The Rocky Mountain News, Denver.*

OVER-CIVILIZATION: THE MUGWUMPS.

FAILURE to trust instincts rather than intellectual refinements is the impeachment against our civilization seriously proposed by Henry Childs Merwin in *The Atlantic Monthly* for June. He maintains that nature herself has decided against the man who has lost the primeval impulses: the instinct of pugnacity, the instinct of pity, and the instinct of pride. Civilization that weakens them becomes degeneracy. Citing the Civil War for an example the writer says:

"When any great moral emergency arises, the people will act upon it with substantial unanimity, because they decide such matters, not by balancing arguments, but by trusting to their instincts. On the other hand, popular government would probably be impossible in a nation of clever, well-educated people. If everybody were sophisticated and artificial, if everybody reasoned about everything and took care not to act from natural impulses, harmonious political action would become impossible. We should have at first factions instead of parties, then individuals instead of factions, and then chaos. There is an approach to this condition of things in France to-day."

Mr. Merwin finds support for his theory in Mr. Lecky's reference to the opinion of some of the ablest and most successful politicians, to the effect that "by adopting a very low suffrage it would be possible to penetrate below the region where crotchets and experiments and crude Utopias and habitual restlessness prevail, and to reach the strong settled habits, the enduring tendencies, the deep conservative instincts of the nation."

Confining our quotation to Mr. Merwin's application of his theory to politics (he treats trenchantly the evil effects, said to be greater in degree, of getting far from nature in literature) the following judgment is pronounced on the Mugwumps:

"There is one political party or group in the United States from which, I think, a lesson can be drawn in this matter, namely, the Mugwumps. I have a great respect for them—the sort of respect that a man naturally has for the party to which he himself belongs, or almost belongs. The Mugwumps, man for man, are about the most conscientious, the most moral, the best educated persons of our day. And yet there has always been a deep distrust of them among the people at large. I do not mean among the politicians; the politicians hate them because they are irregulars in politics. The people dislike them, in a measure because they resent what they believe (perhaps erroneously) to be an assumption of superiority on the part of the Mugwumps, but in the main, it seems to me, because they have an instinctive feeling that the Mugwumps are governed by principles entirely different from those which govern them, and are deficient in certain respects in which the mass of the people are not deficient. This is exactly the case. The Mugwumps, almost without exception, are the kind of men whom I have endeavored to describe—the oversophisticated; they are persons who are far from nature, who distrust their natural impulses, who have substituted the feeble and erratic conclusions of the intellect for the natural promptings of the heart.

"We have had recently a striking illustration of this. In the Venezuelan affair the President and his Secretary of State acted not without thought, and yet with an instinctive perception of what the honor and the ultimate welfare of the country demanded. They trusted to that instinctive perception, and the nation responded with remarkable unanimity. Even the bitterest enemies of Mr. Cleveland, in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, supported him, and the people at large, whatever their political opinions, supported their representatives. Mr. Cleveland, every one would admit, is a man close to nature, both in his virtues and in his failings, and it was almost inevitable that in such a matter as this the great bulk of his unsophisticated fellow countrymen should be at one with him. Those who objected to his policy were but a small minority. In the whole country, so far as I know, only five papers of any importance failed to support the President's position. These were the Boston *Herald*, the Providence *Journal*, the Springfield *Republican*, the New York *Evening Post*, and the New York *World*. Setting aside *The World*, which acted from well-known motives of private hatred, these are all Mugwump papers, or papers leaning in that

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direction. Here, then, was a remarkable coincidence. The Venezuelan affair did not in the least touch upon peculiar Mugwump principles; it was not a matter of civil-service reform or of any other reform. Moreover, the position taken by the Mugwump papers was not the result of concerted action on their part; it was a position for which each paper had an obvious predilection from the start, altho undoubtedly they bolstered up one another afterward. I assume that these journals were wrong. Some of my readers may refuse to grant the assumption, but at all events this much is clear, that the Mugwumps are not in sympathy with the rest of their countrymen. In some respects, at least, they stand apart from the main current of national life. The difference between them and the great mass of the people is the difference between those who are far from nature and those who are close to nature. The Mugwumps belong to the former class, and in fact they are extreme representatives of it. Their conduct in the Venezuelan affair justified that popular distrust of them which I, for one, had always regarded as a mistake, but which I now perceive was founded upon the vague perception of real truth."

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP IN THEORY AND PRACTISE.

A SYMPOSIUM of permanent value on the subject of municipal ownership of so-called "natural monopolies" recently appeared in the New York *Independent* (May 6). The contributors include Dr. Albert Shaw, Prof. J. Lawrence Laughlin of the Chicago University, Prof. E. R. A. Seligman of Columbia, Prof E. W. Bemis of Chicago; Hon. Lee Meriwether, Missouri Commissioner of Labor; James Paton, curator of the Glasgow art galleries, and William Epps, secretary of the Australian National League. Short testimonies from officials of a score of cities are also given. *The Independent* finds from the discussion that "municipal ownership is not a dangerous socialistic attack on wealth, but a movement that is destined to grow correspondingly with the growth of cities and the value of city franchises." Altho difficulties in the way of a change of this character at once suggest themselves, *The Independent* concludes that "municipal ownership as compared with municipal control or individual ownership is a question simply of the 'greatest good to the greatest number,' and as such becomes a matter of expediency in each particular case"; in a word, "the social advantages outweigh the economic disadvantages."

The success of Glasgow's municipal enterprises, water-works, tramways, and lighting, is comparatively well known. The officials of cities in England, Germany, Switzerland, and various States of the Union, with scarcely an exception, report successful municipal control or ownership of water- and lighting-works and street railways. The interesting Australian experiments in state ownership of railways and irrigation works are said to be questionably successful from financial and political standpoints.

Commissioner Meriwether gives facts proved in St. Louis alone sufficient, he thinks, to call for a change from private ownership of street railways:

"St. Louis street railways pay their stock- and bond-holders dividends upon $40,000,000; to the public they pay taxes on only $4,246,190.

"The rental upon their franchises, which are worth $29,571,640, should be $1,478,582 per year; but the street railways are made to pay only $47,500 a year, or scarcely one thirtieth of what they should pay.

"The law levies a tax upon every mile of track; but the street-railway managers pay taxes on as few miles as they please because the city's officials do not dare demand all of the taxes legally due; the manager of one road paid taxes on only thirty-four miles of track, altho his company owned and operated seventy-six miles. The managers of another road, so far from being made to pay any portion whatsoever of the $4,000 taxes due the city each year, were powerful enough politically to place the president of their road upon the Board of Tax Equalization; and upon being placed there he promptly cut in two the already absurdly low assessments of every street railway in St. Louis.

"The law imposes a $25 vehicle license on each and every street-car; but the city collector of St. Louis, afraid of the political power of the railway companies, does not dare enforce the law. The utmost number of street-car licenses ever paid in any one year was 74, and in that same year the assessor found 1,480 cars in operation.

"No one even attempted to contradict these facts [made the issue of his campaign for mayor by Mr. Meriwether] which show at a glance how the political power of franchise-owning corporations is used to defraud the public of sums mounting up into the millions; yet not a newspaper in St. Louis, even of my own political faith, dared demand of faithless public officials an accounting for their illegal favoritism to a clique of powerful private corporations. The St. Louis papers had much to say as to the manner in which Chicago street railways used their political power to escape paying taxes; and the Chicago papers, in order to win the favor of its readers opposed to franchise steals, dwelt upon the iniquity of the St. Louis street railways in overriding the law and paying only $47,500 where more than thirty times that amount ($1,478,582) was rightfully due. But the papers of both cities took care to see only the mote in their distant neighbor's eye, while remaining safely blind to the beam in the eye of the city around them. Franchise-owners can afford to smile complacently at the exposure of wrongs in distant places so long as any and every pretext is seized to discredit and defeat in their own city the candidate pledged to demand adequate yearly rentals for public franchises and to force street railways to pay their taxes. . . .

"So long as private ownership of public streets means the forming of such powerful and corrupting corporations that citizens are made to pay more taxes on a few yellow dogs than are paid by street-railway corporations monopolizing hundreds of miles of the people's streets, something more than the cry 'Socialism!' is needed to quiet the suggestion that municipalization of street railways might be a change for the better."

Prof. Edward W. Bemis treats of municipal lighting and gives figures concerning municipal gas-plants in twelve American cities. The greatest difficulties have been encountered in Philadelphia, owing to complications in politics and city administration. Professor Bemis's general conclusions are:

(1) That city ownership is so popular that offers to sell to private companies receive little attention. (2) This confidence is justified, for the price is usually lower than in cities of the same class where private ownership obtains, while the charges in most cases pay for the works so that tax levies become unnecessary. (3) The undertaking is considered a practical question, not "Socialism." (4) A larger proportion of the population appear to patronize the gas-works. (5) "Where there is public ownership of a lighting- or water-plant it is easier to arouse the wealthy and powerful interests of society against the spoilsmen and the inefficient aldermen than it is under private ownership to arouse the same classes against the overcharges and the too often corrupt relations of these monopolies with regulating and legislative bodies, since in the latter case these same powerful social classes as investors are selfishly interested in perpetuating monopolistic rule."

Professor Seligman writes of the telegraph and telephone, and discovers what seems to him a definite law of evolution in all the media of transportation and communication:

"Everywhere at first they are in private hands and used for purposes of extortion or of profit, like the highways in medieval Europe, or the early bridges and canals. In the second stage they are 'affected with the public interest,' and are turned over to trustees, who are permitted to charge fixed tolls, but are required to keep the service up to a certain standard; this was the era of the canal and turnpike trusts or companies. In the third stage the Government takes over the service, but manages it for profits, as is still the case to-day in some countries with the post and the railway system. In the fourth stage, the Government charges tolls or fees only to cover expenses, as until recently in the case of canals and bridges, and as is the theory of the postal

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system and of the municipal water-supply with us at the present time. In the fifth stage the Government reduces charges until finally there is no charge at all, and the expenses are defrayed by a general tax on the community. This is the stage now reached in the common roads and most of the canals and bridges, and which has been proposed by officials of several American cities for other services like the water-supply. The rapidity with which the several stages are reached depends largely on the question of capital outlay and complexity of management. When this outlay is relatively small and the operation simple, as in the case of the highways, it is easy to reach the final state. Where the outlay is greater, as in the case of canals, of post, and of the water-supply, the progress is slower. Where the outlay is still greater, as in the case of the telegraph, the telephone, and the gas-supply, the progress is slower yet; and where the service calls for an immense expenditure both of capital and of business ability, as in the case of the railway, the movement has only begun. In the case of the railway, it may confidently be affirmed that the arguments at present in the United States strongly point against government management. But in the case of the telegraph and the telephone, the operations possess far more of a routine-like character, and the capital expenditure is so immeasurably less than in the case of the railway that, as Jevons already pointed out years ago, each year's revenue and expense accounts represent with sufficient accuracy the real commercial conditions of the department. The democratic tendencies of the age have not only put the telegraph and telephone systems almost everywhere in the hands of Government, but they have put almost all countries into the fourth stage of the development, and have made many of them enter on the fifth. The United States and Canada still lag behind in the first, or primitive stage; but with the continual advance of democracy it may not be rash to predict that the arguments will continually become stronger for the assumption by Government first of the telegraph, and later of the telephone business."

Professor Laughlin takes the position that municipal ownership is essentially a question of expediency and local conditions:

"So far as I see, we must apply the test of obtaining greater moral, political, and economic gains for society as a whole than under private ownership, and a greater protection than now for the small dealer, the small property-owner, and the average plain citizen. The burden of proof certainly lies on him who advocates government ownership to prove that all these results would ensue from the operation of a special measure. There can be no general rule for or against such propositions."

Dr. Albert Shaw, who is given first place in the symposium, argues for municipal ownership in this country, not from academic theories of government, but because public and municipal authority and prestige are weaker and lower here than anywhere else in the world:

"The practical situation in the United States is rapidly shifting the burden of proof. The relations existing notoriously between great corporations and our state legislatures and municipal governments, are forcing upon us the question, not whether in some directions the business functions of Government can be safely or wisely extended, but, rather, the question how to avoid a very extensive increase of public functions as the only visible retreat from the intolerable state of demoralization into which Government has fallen. The enormous sums of money contributed for purposes of political control by the corporations enjoying municipal-supply privileges have given us the boss system in its present form. And the boss system, which in fact knows no distinctions of political party, is fast destroying state and municipal government as the stedfast and loyal servitor, defender, and promoter of the public interest.

"With honest, independent, and truly representative government, such as our forefathers knew, and such as they hoped would be ours in perpetuity, it would seem to me a matter of comparatively little moment whether the public welfare were served by the municipal ownership and operation of gas-plants, or, under fair terms, by a private company. On some accounts I should considerably prefer the latter alternative. But with weak and flabby government, lacking moral stamina, and lacking the intellectual force to make advantageous bargains with private corporations, I should be inclined to the opinion that direct ownership and operation, as offering less temptation, might well have better results for the community in some cases. At least it would tend to build up the municipal government on the side of its dignity and prestige; so that, in the end, it might possess enough character, intelligence, and stability to be able to get a transit company or a lighting company on something like equal terms, and grant a franchise on terms which would not involve the betrayal of the rights of the community."

TWO VIEWS OF THE GRADED INHERITANCE TAX.

At least eighteen States of the Union have adopted a tax on inheritances in some form. The courts of different States have not agreed in their decisions regarding the constitutionality of the graduated or progressive form of an inheritance tax, and the question may be expected to come up eventually before the United States Supreme Court under the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Meantime the controversy continues between supporters of the "ability" theory like Controller Roberts of New York (quoted in THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 22) and supporters of the theory of "proportionality" in taxation. We couple together the substance of a decision by the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois affirming the constitutionality of a graded tax in Illinois, and Governor Black's veto of the form of graded tax passed at the last session of the New York legislature.

The Illinois law fixes a rate of 1 per cent. on all estates of $20,000 and over passing to direct heirs. The tax on estates passing to collateral heirs is graded as follows: Estates of $500 or less, exempt; $10,000 or less, 3 per cent.; $10,000 to $20,000, 4 per cent.; $20,000 to $50,000, 5 per cent.; $50,000 and over, 6 per cent. The decision of the state supreme court is thus summarized:

The rule of descent and the right to devise property by will with the right to inherit property so devised are created by the statute laws of the State. The right to devise and the right to inherit being created by statute, the legislature may change the statute on the subject at its discretion.

The rule of descent and the right to devise being created by act of the legislature, the same power "may impose conditions or burdens on a right of succession to the ownership of property to which there has ceased to be an owner because of death and the ownership of which the State then provides for by the law of descent or devise."

The imposition of this condition or burden is not a tax on the property, but on the right of succession. To deny the power of the legislature to impose conditions or burdens on the right to devise and to inherit "is to deny the right of the State to regulate the administration of a decedent's estate."

The inheritance tax act of 1895, providing that a certain part of the estate of a deceased person shall be paid into the public treasury, "was in effect an assertion of the sovereignty in the estate of the deceased person." Whether or not the portion of an estate going to the State is to be levied and determined as a tax or penalty, "the principle is that where one owning an estate dies that estate is to be assessed in accordance with those provisions of the act and the tax to be paid for the right of inheritance. The amount reserved to the State from the estate of a deceased owner is not a tax on the estate, but on the right of succession."

There is no infringement on the constitutional rule of uniformity in taxation in the graded rate of tax. "The class on which a tax is thus levied is general, uniform, and pertains to all species of property included within that class. A tax which affects the property within a specific class is uniform as to the class, and there is no provision of the constitution which precludes legislative action from assessing a tax on that particular class."

The law proposed for New York sought to change existing rates of transfer tax of 1 and 5 per cent. on personal estates exceeding $500,000, by a cumulative increase on each $250,000, up to 10 per cent. for direct and 15 per cent. for collateral heirs. Governor

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Black, in vetoing the bill, declared that the State is not in need of money, that the remedy for evasion of personal taxes is enforcement of existing laws, and continued:

"But the strongest argument against this bill is that the rate proposed is not uniform nor fair. There is no reason why one man's dollar should pay more than another man's. There is no reason why the last million dollars of a man's property should pay more than the first million. The discrimination between the two is a penalty, not a tax. Under this bill an inheritance of $1,000,000 would pay a tax of $10,000, and an inheritance of $4,000,000 under similar circumstances would pay $400,000. The inheritance would be only four times as large in one case as in the other, but the tax would be forty times as much. If this is constitutional it ought not to be. Every dollar ought under the same conditions to pay the same tax. Any other theory of taxation is not only unjust, but dangerous. If such a tax as this could be imposed any other might be.

"In this country equality is demanded in all things, and taxation must certainly be included. If this rule were not adhered to one set of men might without restraint impose a tax for another set to pay. Unlimited power of discrimination can not safely be trusted to any one. A step like this would cost dearly in the long run. The experience of last summer and fall had a significance which should keep us from following dangerous trails. The country made good its escape then, but the margin of safety was not enough to encourage the doctrine that laws may be passed imposing burdens from which those who pass the laws may exempt themselves.

"In this country the right of suffrage is carried too far. Dangerous elements from abroad are yearly vaccinated into our population. Restlessness, apparent or just under the surface, is far too prevalent. Legislatures, depending upon popular vote, are changing every year, and are seldom too conservative. If we are wise we shall adhere to the rule that a man who passes a law must abide by it himself.

"The claim that the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer is not true, and would have no bearing here if it were. Poverty is not increasing, but the accumulations of the industrious are steadily on the gain. We have had hard times, to be sure, but this stringency comes not alone from a decreased income, but from a too liberal way of living as well. In times of prosperity expenditures are made and habits indulged which can be sustained in prosperous times only, but when the income shrinks these habits become headstrong. Our burden then seems double, because a reduced income is struggling with the tastes and habits left over from prosperous times.

"Neither is it true that the rich receive greater protection from the Government, according to their property, than the poor. The reverse is probably true. This is illustrated in the case of fire and police protection and school facilities. Those possessed of large incomes can, through the employment of servants, protect themselves against fire and the inroads of criminals. They can, and to a very large extent do, educate their children outside the public schools. On the other hand, people of moderate means depend very largely upon the Government for the advantages named. These latter considerations have no proper weight upon problems like those involved in this bill, and they are alluded to here only because the tendency is growing to thrust them into the discussion of every public question.

"It has been urged before me in opposition to this bill that wealthy men may leave the State in case it becomes a law. This is a danger which I should not have the slightest hesitation in encountering, provided the bill was just. Taxation should be fairly imposed, even tho the rich might prefer to leave the State rather than bear their share, but we should be certain that a proposed act is equitable before we face the risk of driving millions of property now in this State into adjoining commonwealths. . . . There is no State which has hitherto attracted so many of the rich and progressive of other States as the State of New York. Millions of money are brought here every year from every State in the Union to remain permanently, and this increase of money and of most desirable citizens should not be retarded by the adoption of an unwise and unjust policy. I believe that every dollar should pay its equal share of the burdens of Government, and if the laws now existing do not reach that end they should be amended and then enforced. The proposed bill fails in my judgment to correct the evil aimed at, but creates another."

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION THE ROOT OF DEPRESSION.

THE fact, broadly stated, that, compared to the increase of population, agriculture is declining and manufactures are increasing in this country, is of greater importance to a correct estimate of prevailing conditions than any of the alleged causes to which popular comment has attributed depression. Such is the position taken by the New York *Journal of Commerce*, which argues that with this industrial revolution has come over-production which protective tariffs only aggravate. In a series of editorials *The Journal* furnishes data to show the industrial revolution that has taken place. Between 1880 and 1890 the census shows an increase of about 25 per cent. in population. In persons employed in farm work the gain is but 10.2 per cent., while in manufacturing the gain is 49 per cent. and in mining 49.3 per cent. That is to say, the agricultural workers have increased at only about one-fifth the rate of the gain in the manufacturing and mining employments. The figures of leading crops and stocks of animals tell also of low progress in farming; there is a decrease of 5 per cent. in wheat acreage, a gain (15.5 per cent.) in corn area of a little more than half that of the national population; hop increase only 20.3 per cent., and sheep but 1.9 per cent. With this apparent decadence it may be fairly assumed that the same rule applies to the interests directly dependent upon disbursements of the farming class. *The Journal* goes on to say:

"It is not needful to our purpose to explain, at length, the causes of this relative decline of farming. It plainly means that farming in this country has been restricted by the limitations of the domestic and foreign markets for its products. Also, in view of the largely increasing production of food staples in other countries, it was clearly impossible that the United States could continue indefinitely to increase its production of these commodities at a ratio equal to the increase of its general population. A halt must come some time; and the foregoing figures prove that it had arrived in 1890. When this point was reached, the basis was laid for a radical change in the distribution of the employments of the labor and capital of the country. The large share of the increase of population which had formerly gone into agricultural pursuits must henceforth be divided among other industries, which would naturally be principally those connected with manufacturing and mining. The same rule must also apply to the distribution of the new accessions of capital, which have been wont to increase at a much higher rate than population. The census records demonstrate that such a change of distribution of productive resource has already actually occurred upon a stupendous scale.

"The production of pig iron has increased during the decade 142 per cent.; of copper 477 per cent.; of lead 47 per cent.; and of coal 120 per cent. Comparing these high ratios of increase with that of 25 per cent. in the population, it will be seen how much more largely than formerly the augmentation of population and capital has been absorbed by the production of staples which lies at the basis of our mechanical industries.

"A similar expansion in the production of manufactures in excess of the rate of increase in population is apparent in our industries at large. . . . The ratios of increase of products in 1890 over 1880 would be about as follows: Cotton goods 65 per cent., woolens and worsted goods 49 per cent., and silk goods 153 per cent. Thus we have an increase in the production of textile fabrics at more than double the ratio of increase in population; which affords another illustration of the extraordinary diversion of population and capital to the manufacturing industries.

"Perhaps, however, the most striking evidence of the great expansion of our industries other than agricultural is afforded by the progress in the use of steam power. In 1880, the aggregate steam capacity of the country was 2,185,458 horse-power; in 1890, it had risen to 4,662,029—an increase at the rate of 113 per cent.; which is the best possible indication of the extent of the growth of our mechanical industries."

The Journal insists that it is important to have a clear comprehension of the magnitude of the change and the many grave dislocations it entails:

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The wealth invested in farms is fourfold that invested in all mining and manufacturing interests combined, $17,947,000,000, in the former; $4,349,000,000 in the latter; an excess of farms over manufactures (1890) of $13,598,000,000.

"These statistics afford some conception of what it means to the country at large when our agriculture has reached a point at which its progress is only two fifths of the rate of increase in the general population. Had our agricultural industry expanded, between 1880 and 1890, in the same ratio as population, viz., 25 per cent., the valuation of that interest would have been $20,500,000,000 instead of the $18,000,000,000 above stated. This relative decline in farming therefore means that, during the last census decade, some $2,500,000,000 of the increment which would otherwise have accrued on agriculture was diverted to other industries —an amount which is equal to 57 per cent. of the entire valuation of our mining and manufacturing industries in 1890. This comparison is given to facilitate a conception of the magnitude of this diversion of production from farming to other industries. The change is no mere transient accident; it is based upon the natural limitations of the food requirements of the world and the expansion of agricultural production in other countries. Judging from the reports of the Department of Agriculture, the contraction of this branch of production is likely to prove even greater in the current decade than it was in that of 1880–1890. The change, then, is to be accepted as a permanent broad revolution in the distribution of the productive forces of the nation.

"Beyond this enormous relative diversion of capital and labor to other than agricultural industries, there are other causes having a similar bearing upon mechanical production at large. There has been no abatement of the extraordinary new creations of plant due to the economizing of motive power and to the improvements in machinery. The new plant has not displaced an equivalent of old, but the latter has been largely retained in losing competition with the improved, with the effect of abnormally depressing prices. The pressure upon prices of this sort of mechanical revolution may be inferred from the fact that, according to Sauerbeck's calculations, average prices of commodities have fallen from the index number 111 in 1873 to 61 in 1896—a decline equivalent to 45 per cent.

"At the same time, within recent years, our railroad system seems to have reached a point of comparative sufficiency and completion. Between 1880 and 1890, we built 73,402 miles of road, or an average of 7,340 miles yearly; for the last six years the average construction has been only 2,684 miles per year; which amounts to a reduction of two thirds in the construction outlays of an industrial system which values its property at over $8,000,000,000. The effect of this comparative suspension of railroad building has been to withdraw one very important source of demand for capital and labor, and thereby greatly to stimulate the employment of both in other industries."

"The inevitable effect of these sweeping changes in industrial development is obvious," says *The Journal*, and this description follows:

"The diversion from agriculture and from railroad construction has virtually compelled an abnormal increase of plant in other departments of production. Labor and capital can not afford to lie idle; and in order that this surplus might find employment, it has drifted into every kind of industrial opening that seemed to offer the semblance of an opportunity. The advantages afforded by improvements in machinery and by other forms of economy in production have acted as a stimulus to such investments; and to that large number of propertied persons who have faith in the theory of protection, the high tariff duties have given assurance that they would enjoy the advantage of high prices and exemption from foreign competition. The result of these joint inducements is expressed in the immense increase in production which the statistics we yesterday cited fully demonstrated. That increase has ranged from twice to four times the rate of growth in our population. The increase of production, however, has not equaled the extension of plant, for a considerable portion of our machinery has been kept idle to escape the larger loss on running it. This disproportion between our plant and the consumptive capacity of our markets has been running for the last five years; and our ability to deal with such a state of things has been lessened by the disturbances of confidence created by acute political demoralization and the grave derangements in the public finances. Added to the influences tending to an inflation of production, there has been a severe curtailment of the demand for manufactures from the farmers, the same influences as have caused them to curtail their production having impoverished them and diminished their purchasing ability— a fact which, considering their great numerical importance, has had a very contracting effect upon consumption, of the more staple commodities especially. The result of all this has been a continuous fall in prices, which for the last five years has ranged between 15 and 25 per cent.; and there is no evidence as yet that the downward drift has reached its end. These are the broad underlying causes —over-supply of plant and over-production of goods—to which we mainly owe the stubborn depression of business."

FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN THE GRECO-TURKISH WAR.

THE enormous influence of financial interests in the game of international politics must be reckoned with in order to understand the moves of nations in a struggle such as the Greco-Turkish conflict. *Bradstreet's*, the New York financial weekly, says that in this case the conditions are easily understood, and, proceeding to details, says:

"Turkey has a large debt, in which English, French, and German investors are all interested. An arrangement exists by which the administration of the debt and the revenues pledged for the payment of interest and principal are placed under European control through a council of administration, in which Sir Vincent Caillard represents the English interests. Coercion of the Sultan or any break between the powers and the Sublime Porte would endanger this compact and threaten the very existence of the council of administration, leaving the Turkish debt to gravitate back to the chronic bankruptcy and repudiation which existed when it was administered by the Turks themselves. Under the existing arrangements, . . . not only has the stipulated interest been regularly met, but considerable reductions of the principal have also been effected through the operations of the sinking funds. A disturbance of the plan would therefore involve severe losses to financial interests and investors at all the European capitals, and the decline of Turkish bonds which followed the outbreak of the war was a reflection of the fact. Similarly the success of the Turkish armies in the field has naturally resulted in a marked recovery in the standing of 'Turks' at all the leading stock exchanges of Europe. Nor should it be forgotten that Greece has been far behind the Turks in conciliating the financial sentiment of Europe. The Hellenes are burdened with an excessive debt, and after a default and long negotiations with their creditors made a compromise involving a severe cutting-down of the interest rate upon their country's obligations, but either through poverty or the sheer neglect of their political class have never carried out the terms, remaining, in fact, in default to this day. Greece's defeat in the war and the prospect of its having to pay a large war indemnity to Turkey certainly do not improve the position of the former's creditors, tho the attitude of its Government in this respect may be deemed a strong element in the unfavorable sentiment which the powerful financial interests of Western Europe have taken as regards its cause throughout the complications. It has not escaped observation that among the reports connected with the peace negotiations is one that the powers as the price of their interference would insist upon outside control of the Greek debt and revenues. This, while not fully confirmed, is at least plausible, as it would certainly meet with the approval of the large financial interests which have a stake in Greek obligations.

"The report of the council of administration of the Ottoman debt for the year ending in March last is, in the light of all these developments, unusually interesting. It shows that even at the worst times the ordinary revenue of the empire assigned to meeting the debt goes on increasing, and that the redemption of the grouped loans progresses without intermission. Thus, during the year just ended, there was a gain of 5½ per cent. in the revenue under direct control of the council, as against the preceding year, which was the high-water mark, while the indirect contributions gained in amount in spite of a falling-off in the receipts from the tobacco monopoly, and a default on the part of Bulgaria in fully meeting the tribute due the Porte. At the same time, a

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large amount of bonds were redeemed, some 376,000 Turkish pounds, or $1,654,400, being available for the purpose, while the decline in the market price for the bonds enabled the council to effect the cancellation of a proportionally larger amount than ever before. The showing is an interesting one, and has to be considered in making any estimate of the action of the powers in regard to the struggle in the East."

JURY SERVICE REFORM.

RENEWED discussion of defects in the jury system has arisen because of an opinion expressed by Justice Dean of the supreme court of Pennsylvania in a recent address to the Law Academy of Philadelphia. The judge alleges that there is a dangerous tendency among juries to substitute prejudice against property rights for justice. The remedy, he opines, is to prevent the more intelligent citizens from escaping jury service. The New York *Commercial Advertiser*, noting that these views come from a jurist of high place and long experience, says:

"Justice Dean's main point regarding the operation of juries at the present time is the failure of justice through them in civil trials from the tendency to take from him who hath to give to him who hath not. This has been long discerned on the bench and among lawyers, and it gains significance from its natural association with the various manifestations that have appeared, notably of late, of a spirit in certain quarters antagonistic to the established rights of property. The unwillingness of lawyers who represent corporations to try actions before juries is a familiar fact, and references in such actions are gladly availed of. It remains to be shown, of course, that this is the avoidance of unjust treatment at the hands of juries, instead of being an endeavor to secure more than justice.

"Justice Dean does not attack the institution of the jury, which he regards as the chief pillar of our judicial system, but he rightly asserts that 'no system of government can stand which does not protect the property of the citizen as well as his person.' Indeed, it is because he conceives it to be a main interest of our society that the jury system is made unassailable that he frankly discloses what he believes to be its vulnerable point. Nor is he without the remedy—one that has before been indicated with authority from the bench. The character of jurors must be protected. The root of the evil, says Justice Dean, lies in the laxity of the enforcement of the law regulating their selection. Shirking jury duty, he declares, should be made as odious as 'skulking in time of war.' He would let no eligible citizen make excuse, but take the 'banker from his desk, the editor and professor from their chairs, the preacher from his pulpit,' and let them take and fulfil the oath of meting out justice to their fellow citizens.

"If perversion of justice is allowed to continue, he asserts, it will show the way to revolution under legal forms and the eventual abolition of the institution of jury trials. It is to safeguard that institution that Justice Dean speaks of the facts of his experience."

The Philadelphia *Record* disputes Justice Dean's assertion that a decline of popularity of the jury system is due to an ignorant perversion of moral sense in the community whence jurors are drawn:

"'This perverted moral sense,' he says, 'is due in great degree to the education of the public, the demagogry on the stump, unjust attacks in newspapers and even denunciations from the pulpit. Such epithets as bloated bondholders, soulless corporations, and robber barons, have been familiar for at least twenty-five years; they are indiscriminately applied to corporations and their members until the tendency, even in intelligent minds, is to consider suitors as belonging to two classes—corporations with no rights, and natural persons whose rights as against them must be strictly guarded. To some extent this perversion is due to unwise conduct of those in charge of corporate property. But, unquestionably, popular education has brought about largely a perversion of the popular conscience, and this habit of thought, starting with prejudice against corporate capital, has been insensibly extended to include individual capital, so that in every issue of fact with large property on one side and poverty on the other, the weight of the evidence, in many cases, palpably fails to establish the truth by a verdict.'

"We doubt the truth of this explanation. A juror may go wrong from failure to grasp the real import of the facts, proven before him, or from having his feelings inflamed or his prejudices aroused by appeals of overzealous and not overscrupulous counsel. But a man's judgment may go astray, or his mental equipoise be disturbed, without his moral sense being perverted or his sense of right being impaired. We have not yet attained to the state of angels, and we are not likely to have infallible tribunals until we cease to be men. To err is human. It has been so in the past and is likely to be so in the future.

"And it may well be doubted if juries make more frequent mistakes in their verdicts, on the facts, than courts in their decisions on the law. How often do the courts of last resort reverse the lower tribunals, and how often do they reverse themselves? This implies no perversion of the moral sense. In deciding a question of law, the judgment of the judge may have been misled by mistaking sophism for logic; or at the moment his intellectual perceptions may have been clouded; or an unconscious bias may have deflected him from the true line.

"The truth is, in the last thirty years the scramble for wealth has been unsurpassed in its intensity since the closing days of the Roman Republic. By the aid of tariffs, franchises, and governmental endowments great fortunes have been accumulated and great financial scandals have shocked the world. 'Unwise conduct of those in charge of corporate property' has had a tendency also to cast a shadow over all corporations, whether well or ill conducted. In the belief of many, juries have a bias against corporations and judges a bias in their favor. This may be true in some cases, but it can not be universally asserted. The heavy verdicts against the Traction Company, to which Justice Dean refers, and which, no doubt have been in many cases excessive, might have been rendered in the supposed interest of the public—to wit, to compensate for injuries inflicted by negligence in the particular instance, and to secure such care in the future as to prevent repetition. It is not necessary to surmise that these verdicts were the result of a perverted moral sense or a decline in the character of jurors. We agree with Mr. Justice Dean in thinking that the jury should represent the average conscience and intelligence of the community. And we agree with him also in thinking that if the courts be derelict in their duty and excuse the best men on the jury from jury service, 'the average of conscience and intelligence in the jury box' will be necessarily reduced. The obvious remedy is for the judges to be very strict, and not too indulgent, in relieving jurymen from serving."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

A "TOPIC IN BRIEF."—It was the practise of a certain London editor, some years ago, to write his leading article or articles at home the night before publication. The rest of the week he did nothing. One night his articles had not come to hand at the office. Ten o'clock came; 11, 12, and still no sign of an article.

There was commotion in the office, and at last a messenger was sent to the editor's house. He found him with a glass of brandy and water before him, and newspapers scattered about. There was no article written.

"What do you want?" asked the editor. "The article for to-morrow." "Didn't I send it?" "No; at least it has not come to the office." "Give me *The Times*."

The Times was found and handed to him, and with unsteady fingers he cut out one of its leading articles. This he stuck upon a sheet of paper, and then, taking up his pen, wrote at the top: "What does *The Times* mean by this?" In that form and with that introduction, it appeared next morning as the editor's leading article.—*The Argonaut, San Francisco.*

M'KINLEY BRINGS PROSPERITY—TO CUBA.
—*The Chronicle, Chicago.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

PAINTERS BEHIND THE SCENES.

PUBLIC curiosity in regard to the private life of eminent painters has recently been gratified by the publication of biographies of Jean François Millet, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Ford Madox Brown, and Frederick Walker. That books of this kind, with the inevitable "letters" of the subject of the memoir, should find a ready sale, is to *The Edinburgh Review* evidence of a desire on the part of many people "to know what the artist eats and drinks, whether he swears at his models, how his house is furnished, and any other details they can get." Of the results of this looking "behind the scenes," *The Review* says:

"It is true that the pursuit of this investigation may lead to a painful amount of what is called disillusion; to know too much of what is behind a picture does not always tend to raise one's intellectual estimate of painting and painters. It is curious to find sometimes (in the case of landscape especially), in reference perhaps to a picture which seems to have a good deal of poetic feeling in it, how very matter-of-fact a business it has been to the painter of it, and that what has been to the outsider an appeal to his sentiment has been to the artist an experiment in the use of pigments to produce a certain effect; curious to think that a work, into the making of which no sentiment has gone, can evoke sentiment; but it certainly is so in many cases. It is strange, again, to find how very poor an order of intellectual perception in other respects may coexist with the power to produce pictures which have high intellectual interest, as if the painter's intellect went all into the picture and found expression in no other way. In short, there is a great deal of hollowness in the pretensions often set up as to the high claims of the artist on society, and his position as a kind of superior being. A great deal of the painting of the day is really only a kind of business, requiring more adroitness, painstaking, and application (let that always be admitted) than most other businesses."

Readers of "Trilby" will be interested in this reference to the original of *Little Billee:*

"Of Frederick Walker's genius as a painter, especially when we compare the extent and quality of his achievements with the brief limit of his life, it is perhaps hardly possible to think too highly. It may be said that every picture he painted made its mark; he could not do anything commonplace, whatever subject he treated was invested with a poetic suggestiveness peculiar to himself. Among his smaller works there is no better example of this than a little water-color, not as well known so many of his works, entitled 'The Thunder-storm.' What was it which answered to that title? Not a landscape with a black cloud and the regulation flash of lightning, one might be sure. It was the interior of a small drawing-room in a country house, with a young girl and a child, with their backs to the spectator, planted at the window and evidently gazing fixedly out of it. It was strangely effective; one felt as if one were looking out at the thunder-storm along with the children. That was a typical example of Walker's way of mingling human interest with nature; it was not the thunder-storm *per se*, but the thunder-storm as an awe-inspiring spectacle for the child, that took the painter's fancy; it may be said that half the poetry of the work lay in the title. . . .

"Had his life been spared to the orthodox threescore and ten, there is no imagining what Walker might not have accomplished in painting; great as his executed works are, he was really only just beginning a career at the time of his death. And yet of all this intellectual power and poetry which comes out in his pictures, there is not a trace in the letters or in any anecdotes (of which there are in fact very few) that are related of him. The author has mainly allowed Walker to tell his own story, for the bulky volume consists almost entirely of the painter's own letters, linked together by a few connecting words; but the fact is there is no story to tell. The letters are for the most part absolutely uninteresting. What we wanted was a small biography just to give us the main facts as to Walker's life and character; for the rest let his pictures speak. In a note quoted in the book Mr. Calderon says of him, 'Walker never expressed an opinion about anything, or joined in any discussion whatever'; and that is just what one would gather from his letters; they express nothing characteristic whatever, except an occasional peevishness and irritability. From hints here and there we are able to put together the idea of a personality not without interest; a small but very well-formed figure, a melancholy and abstracted countenance, a character marked by acute shyness and sensitiveness, and a passionate rebellion against anything mean or petty. For the rest one must go to his pictures."

There is much in the biography and letters of Rossetti which *The Review* thinks might well have been omitted. The petty details of his everyday life do not make pleasant reading. We quote:

"The impression conveyed by the memoir is that Rossetti in his earlier days, and before he fell into the unhappy habits which unquestionably shortened his life, was not by any means the kind of dreamy and sensitive being which the style and feeling of most of his poems would have led one to expect. He was apparently a hearty, vigorous kind of man, who entered strenuously both into work and amusement, and was at once a stanch friend, an enthusiastic admirer, and a good hater. But there was an element of coarseness about his character, showing itself in various small characteristics, among others of language. His favorite word for paintings that did not please him is 'slosh' or 'filthy slosh'; tho we rather believe that this objectionable kind of slang was adopted also by others of the P.R.B. set, as a mode of expressing their contempt for all painting outside their own ideals. His pet name for Miss Siddal, who became his wife, was 'Guggum,' and Mrs. Hueffer, who as a child sat for one of his pictures, remembers him standing before the easel solacing himself over his work by a constant repetition of 'Guggum, Guggum.' The *ménage* does not seem to have been a very comfortable one, and Rossetti's remorse at her death led him to bury the MSS. of his poems in her coffin, saying, 'I have often been writing these poems when Lizzie was ill and suffering, and I might have been attending to her, and now they shall go.' That is a feeling that we can honor and sympathize with; but it gives one rather a shock to find that, six or seven years after, the poet, repenting of this act and desiring to establish a literary reputation, had his wife's coffin exhumed and opened and the manuscript taken out again from the poor corrupted remains. It is inconceivable to us how any man who had loved and lost a wife could endure to do so loathsome a thing. Some people will say, no doubt, 'Was it not better so than that such poems should be lost to the world?' Well, there are some things in life even more important than poetry; and we hope many persons will feel that, were the poet a relation of theirs or one in whom they were closely interested, they would ten times rather that his poems should have been lost than that they should have been recovered by an action so utterly at variance with delicacy of feeling and reverence for the dead. As to the sad accounts of Rossetti's later days, the utter subversion of his will under the influence of stupendous doses of chloral and wholesale spirit-drinking, it is not the first time that men of true genius have fallen into that slough; but we can not see why it should all be written down fifteen years afterward. Why not have let it be forgotten?"

For the memoir of Millet the reviewer has nothing but praise. Of it he says:

"To read the life of Jean François Millet is almost like reading the Bible. Here, at least, there is nothing for question or doubt. It is the record of one of the purest and noblest lives ever lived, and the account of Millet's early days and of the character of his parents, and of the associations and influences under which he grew up, forms the exact reflex and explanation of the character of his artistic work, after it took the form under which it finally became famous. In a literary point of view, too, this is by far the best written of the biographies before us. Millet's peasant father and mother seem like characters from the Old Testament —simple people with grand souls. . . . It is the pure love of nature in father and child that stands out as their most striking characteristic.

"One day, as little François stood at his father's side watching the setting sun sink into the waves, the glory of the scene stirred him to enthusiastic admiration and he poured out his heart in an ecstasy of childish rapture. Jean Louis took off his cap rever-

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ently and said, 'My son, it is God.' The boy never forgot that word.

"His mother, simple, yet full of good sense and of interest in her son's artistic future, is as interesting a figure. Young Millet loved the wind and the sea and the trees. The verses of the Bible seemed to him in those days 'like gigantic monuments'; an expression which reminds one strongly of Blake. For the account of the gradual dawning of his artistic genius, and the grave affectionate deliberation of his father on the subject, his first studies under a country teacher, his yearning toward Paris as the place which seemed to him the center at which he could fulfil all his aims, and his bitter disappointment on his first acquaintance with the city, we must refer the reader to the biography. In his critical remarks on the works of various artists, ancient and modern, with which he became acquainted in Paris, there is a power of judgment, expression, and analysis which gives them the deepest interest. He had hard struggles in his early days, and it will surprise many of his present admirers to learn that he was first known and obtained some success as a painter of little pastorals, either with Watteau-like figures or with nude nymphs. . . .

"In regard to the class of pictures of which the 'Angelus' is the most famed example, it can hardly be denied that the recent fame given to these, and the enormous prices paid for them, are the result of a reaction which has run into some exaggeration. In his own way Millet stands alone, for simplicity and power and significance in the depiction of peasant life, and for breadth of style in his treatment of his subjects. In his youth he was a passionate admirer of Michelangelo, and some one not inaptly spoke of him as a 'Michelangelo in sabots.' It is evident that he especially studied breadth and balance in composition. Two of his own declarations on this point are very significant. 'Nothing,' he said, 'must be introduced into a picture but that which is fundamental. Every accessory, however ornamental, which is not there for a purpose, and does not complete the meaning of the picture, must be rigidly excluded.' This is undoubtedly a true gospel, but it does not follow that therefore all great paintings must be as simple and destitute of accessories as Millet's. 'The completion of the meaning of the picture' will be susceptible of a different interpretation according to the nature of the meaning aimed at.

"Time will bring round a somewhat more balanced judgment as to Millet's place in modern art, which, as we have suggested, is a little exaggerated just now. But it is to be hoped that the noble example he gave of a life devoted in simple earnestness to what he regarded as highest and most true in art will never be forgotten. He at least is a painter with whom we can go behind the scenes without any fear of disillusion."

BURNS AND HIS NEW EDITORS.

DR. JAMES DAVIDSON, writing in *The Scottish Review* (April), does not take kindly to the conclusions reached by Henley and Henderson (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, May 29) in their new edition of Burns's works. Dr. Davidson thinks they "exaggerate a little" the debt of Burns to his predecessors. We quote what Dr. Davidson says not only on the Henley-Henderson edition but also on another new edition edited by Robert Chambers and revised by William Wallace. First as to the Chambers-Wallace edition:

"There we learn, from innumerable revisions, corrections, and fresh facts, how little of really valid labor has hitherto been spent on Burns, how neglected has been the study of his origins, and how necessary it was to put on record the best-informed estimate formed by the present generation of the life and works of Burns, and of his place in literature. Tho the myth which envisages Scotland's greatest son as a drunken gager, uncultured, and a singer by accident, has almost disappeared from this country, gross ignorance of the truth about both his conduct and his education still remains to be sapped, as is shown by the example of the poet-laureate, mourning—and not to be comforted—over the blindness of Scotsmen to their hero's faults. . . . What new light, then, has been recently thrown on Burns? Briefly stated, this: Mr. William Wallace, editor of the new *Chambers*, besides accumulating a vast amount of notes and fresh information about the life, the poems, and the letters, has at a stroke justified the world's refusal to dissever the life from the works of Burns by the essay in which he exhibits the poet's conscious moral reconstruction of his career, vindicates his conduct, not merely from the artistic but also from the ethical standpoint, and holds him up to admiration as poet, prophet, and man, as one whose management of the business of his life, rightly regarded, is no less morally helpful to those who can understand it than his poetry has been, and is auxiliary to the progress of the human race, in manners as well as in thought."

As to the Henley-Henderson edition Dr. Davidson says:

"One could wish that the editors had put otherwise the motive of these annotations, whose purpose, they say, is 'to emphasize the theory that Burns, for all his exhibition of some modern tendencies, was not the founder of a dynasty, but the heir to a flourishing tradition, and the last of an ancient line; that he is demonstrably the outcome of an environment, and not in any but the narrowest sense the unnatural birth of Poesy and Time, which he is sometimes held to be.'

"It is in the third volume, recently published, that Messrs. Henley and Henderson are most successful, as they were bound to be, in proving Burns to be the last expression of the old Scots world, altho their theory unquestionably leads them to exaggerate a little his debt to his 'nameless forebears,' and to minimize, by even a little, the broad distinction between him and the writers of the songs which he passed through the mint of his mind. It is not easy to see how they can prove—and they do not attempt it—that the master-qualities of 'fresh and taking simplicity, of vigor and directness, and happy and humorous ease,' came to Burns from his nameless forebears, along with 'much of the thought, the romance, and the sentiment, for which we read and love him.'"

LIGHT ON THE CAREER OF RICHARD REALF.

JUST before Realf took his life in California, in 1878, he wrote a letter to Gen. John F. Miller explaining the reason for his act ("I have deliberately accepted suicide as the only final relief from the incessant, malignant . . . persecution of my divorced wife") and designating Col. R. J. Hinton as his literary executor. After years of arduous labor, Colonel Hinton has collected "from all corners of the land" about one hundred and eighty of Realf's poems, for the purpose of publication soon in a volume.

In *The Voice* (May 20) Colonel Hinton tells the sad story of Realf's by no means irreproachable career as "poet, philosopher, revolutionist, soldier, and tramp." Part of this story has not heretofore been told, at least not in any authoritative way.

At the age of fifteen, Realf was taken as protégé in the refined home of Mrs. Parnell-Stafford in London, where Lady Byron and Rev. Frederic W. Robertson were among his friends. Four years later he was sent by Lady Byron to Derbyshire to study real estate matters, and a year later (at the age of twenty) disappeared. We quote from Colonel Hinton:

"When found by his father he was slightly demented, in rags, bareheaded and barefooted, singing for pence on the streets of Southampton. The story is an obscene one. That Realf was not wholly to blame is shown by the fact that so severe a moralist as Lady Byron aided Miss De Gardinier and Miss Stafford to facilitate his passage to New York and procure in advance a position with Mr. Pease, at the famous Five Points of Industry, where he served as assistant superintendent for more than a year. Resident in Derbyshire was a lady: one of the Noell family, bearing the prefix of 'Honorable.' She was somewhat older than our young Apollo. What actually transpired is not certain, but an irate elder brother returned from the Continent. The presumptuous 'peasant' was driven away, beaten severely over the head. The lady did not live long. The boy was ever after subject to occasional fits (as he once wrote me) 'of mental aberration.'"

He became a poet and lecturer; joined John Brown in 1857, going abroad to help raise funds for Brown's work; after the

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latter's death, while wandering near Lebanon, Pa., Realf was stricken with fever, cared for by the Shakers, and preached for them upon his recovery; joined the Union Army, and at the close of the war was married and soon deserted his wife. Here are the facts concerning this desertion as given by Colonel Hinton:

"The lawful wife of Richard Realf, having left the world, in which she sorrowed greatly, the truth may be told freely, both because it explains why the publication has been delayed so long, also for the reason that it must end the association of another's name with that of Richard Realf. Here are the facts. At Furnessville, Valparaiso county, Ind., on the first or second of June, 1865, Sophia Emory Graves, sister of Mrs. Furness, of that place, and related also to one of the field officers of the Eighty-eighth Illinois Infantry, was married by the Rev. J. J. Morgan, of Michigan City, a family friend, to Richard Realf, of the Eighty-eighth Illinois and aide-de-camp on the staff of General Miller. A few days after Realf was mustered out of the volunteer service. Mrs. Sophie E. Realf never saw her husband again. One of the aberrations of his life seized him. I have found that he was till midsummer near York, Pa., and then went to New York, where he was soon after taken sick with typhoid fever. On convalescence he enlisted as a private soldier. While on recruiting duty at Rochester he fell into intemperance, and during that time married his Nemesis. The wife in Indiana, a lady of refinement and good birth, attractive in person and of gentle ways, supposed him dead. She wrote everywhere for weeks, and could get no trace of him. Then she had a violent attack of brain fever, and, on her recovery, believing him dead, left Indiana for Maine to live with an uncle, assuming his name, that of Emory.

"All this I have had from the lady herself. Some of Realf's letters to her are in my possession. The acknowledgment, some years after, to his sister was all stated to me. He sought at one time to find her whereabouts, but the removal made him believe also that she was dead. A long time after she learned of his being alive, but under conditions that frightened her so that she decided to remain as if dead indeed. I am not defending or extenuating. It is not necessary. The little lady so nobly forgave him that after his death she wished to adopt the boy he left, and did help some who were in part dependent on him."

Of Realf's second marriage, contracted while he was intoxicated and its bitter consequences, Colonel Hinton says:

"Realf believed his deserted wife was dead. He so told his sister, Mrs. Whappam. In 1874 he sought and gained in the local court a divorce from the other. Feeling himself a free man again, he made a happy trip to England. On his return he found the divorce decree revoked by the Supreme Court, because, while there was abundant proof given of criminal cause, yet the particular acts specified in Realf's complaint were not fully established. The issue was purely technical, and a rehearing would have set the matter right. But Realf broke down entirely, especially at the loss of his editorial place. He declared it was useless to resist fate, and went away, forming a new connection. In New York children were born to him. Manfully, at least, he strove to earn means for their support by writing and lecturing. He failed, and his health did also. Army injuries and railroad accidents hurt his system. He had spinal and bladder troubles, and was at last taken with ophthalmic erysipelas. He was cared for in a New York hospital, and from thence, half-blind, aided by friends, was enabled to travel to California. General Miller and others welcomed and aided there. After a while a workman's place was obtained in the mint, where he labored exhaustively till the end came, and his Nemesis punished him."

The following verses are given as probably the last ever written by Realf, being penned about two weeks before his death:

DESOLATION.

Dead—dead,
I shall never die, I fear,
O heart so sore bestead,
O hunger never fed,
O life uncomforted,
It is drear—very drear.

I am cold,
The sunshine glorifying all the hills,
Children dancing among the daffodils;
The thrush-like music of the maidens' lips
Brooding thanksgivings o'er dear fellowships
The calm compassions and benignities
Of souls fast anchored in translucent seas;
The clear radiance of the Invisible
Far glimpses of the perfect beautiful,
Haunting earth with heaven—they warm not—
The low-voiced winds breathe very soothingly,
Yet I am cold—so cold!

Years—years,
So long the dread companionship of pain,
So long the slow compression of the brain,
So long the bitter famine and the drouth,
So long the ache for kisses on the mouth,
So long the straining pain of tearless eyes
In backward looking on far paradise,
So long the tired feet drag faltering and slow;
So long the solemn misery of wo;
Years—years—dreary years!

'Tis most sad,
This crumbling into chaos and decay.
My heart aches, and I think I shall go mad,
Some day—ah, some day!"

The following is one of three sonnets found by the side of his death-bed:

So he died rich. And if his eyes were blurred
With thick films—silence; he is in his grave.
Greatly he suffered, greatly, too, he erred;
Yet broke his heart in trying to be brave:
Nor did he wait till Freedom had become
The loud shibboleth of courtier's lips,
But smote for her when God Himself seemed dumb
And all His arching skies were in eclipse.
Ah! he was weary, but he fought his fight,
And stood for simple manhood, and was joyed
To see the august broad'ning of the light,
And earth's heaving heavenward from the void.
He loved his fellows, and their love was sweet—
Plant daisies at his head, and at his feet.

ANDREW D. WHITE ON POPULAR EDUCATION.

IN a recent after-dinner speech at a meeting of the National Educational Association, our new Ambassador to Germany asserted in substance that no republican government can live, even when founded on deep religious sentiment, unless it has an enlightened body of citizens, and this enlightened body—which he thinks we possess—is the product of three forces: school, press, and pulpit. Said President White, as reported in *The Educational Review* (May):

"I have speculated somewhat upon politics in my day—have had a little to do with them sometimes, and I am profoundly of the impression—it is one of the things left in a somewhat skeptical age as a ripened conviction—that on the education in this republic is to depend its continuance. I have called the attention of other audiences to the fact, but I do not hesitate to add you to the number that the republican form of government is by no means a new thing in this world. A number of great republics, officered by great men, have existed in the world. Their history has been very brilliant, and yet, of them all, only two remain—only two can be said to have lasted. Naturally, I do not count France, which exists simply because there is no head of any other party which is strong enough to marshal a party; therefore it remains a republic for the time being. I am speaking of Switzerland and the United States. Those two republics differ from all the others in only one particular. Other republics have been deeply religious. The republic at Florence was as deeply religious as any community that ever existed. They have had every virtue except an enlightened body of citizens. Switzerland and the United States have that. They stand some chance of continuance.

"When I speak of education as a necessity for the republic, then I do not refer merely to those who teach in the public schools, teach men to be able to read their books and newspapers—that is a function which I respect—but I refer to the whole of education, from the bottom to the top, in all its phases, for, of necessity, you can not have any part of it adequately developed unless you have the whole of it. You can not have blossom and fruitage, unless you have the sound trunk and the sound roots; and if you have

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the public-school roots of the system, and the intermediate schools and high-schools as the trunk, and the university as bearing the bloom and fruit of the system, you can easily see that each is necessary to the other, and you can not have one without having the other. That has always been my doctrine—all the parts are inseparable, and the petty attempt now making in some of the Western States to pit one against the other is probably as futile as any of the worthless expedients that have appeared in the story of public instruction. Therefore I must warmly congratulate you on your profession, and on your work in it. I know of none more worthy, none in which a man ought to be, and indeed on the whole, most men are, more happy. I trust that you feel a due sense of the work you have in hand.

"The school, the press, the pulpit, after all are, and will continue to be, the three great potent energies in the proper evolution of an American people fit for liberty and republican institutions. That you realize this to some extent I have no doubt. I doubt whether any of us realize it as we ought. I trust that, more and more, the time is coming when the simple, great principles of morality which lie at the bottom of all proper political development are to be taught in our schools of all grades, including colleges and universities, and when they will be brought to bear more and more in producing that environment which is the only thing, after all, on which we can rightly depend for a future proper development of our institutions and national life."

A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE VICTORIAN NOVELISTS.

THE coming Victorian jubilee is already inspiring speakers and writers to a review of the world's progress, and especially of Great Britain's progress, along various lines of development. In the realm of literature, we have had, since Victoria

CHARLOTTE BRONTË.

became Queen, no intellectual or moral revolution more complete, in the opinion of Herbert Paul, than "the apotheosis of the novel." He begins an article on this subject (*Nineteenth Century*, May) with a quotation from Jane Austen, written eighty years ago, in which she deplores that "no species of composition has been so much decried" as novels, and that "our foes are almost as many as our readers." Mr. Paul proceeds thereupon to contrast conditions then and now:

"Sir Walter Scott seriously, and with good reason, believed that if he had put his name to 'Waverley' and 'Guy Mannering' he would have injured his reputation as a poet, and even his character as a gentleman. If a novel is published anonymously nowadays, it is in order that the public may be subsequently informed whose identity it is which has been artfully, and but for a moment, concealed. The novel threatens to supersede the public, as the motor-car will supersede the omnibus. We have a new class of novelists who take themselves very seriously, and well they may. Their works are seldom intended to raise a smile. They are designed less for amusement than for instruction, so that to read them in a spirit of levity would be worse than laughing in church, and almost as bad as making a joke in really respectable society. The responsibilities of intellect are now so widely felt that they weigh even where there is no ground for them. Imagination, if it exists, must be kept within bounds. Humor, or what passes for it, must be sparingly indulged. The foundations of belief, the future of the race, the freedom of the will, the unity of history, the limits of political economy, are among the subjects which haunt the mind without paralyzing the pen of the latter-day novelist. The 'smooth tale, generally of love,' has been developed into a representation of the higher life with episodes on ultimate things. I dare say that it is all quite right, and that to read for amusement is a blunder as well as a sin. If people want comedy, they can go to the play. If they want farce, they can turn to politics. The serious novel is for graver moods. But those who love, like Horace, the golden mean may look back with fondness to the beginning of Her Majesty's reign, when novelists had ceased to be pariahs and had not become prigs.

"Perhaps few of us realize the extent to which the novel itself is a growth of the present reign. If we put aside the great and conspicuous instances of Defoe, Richardson, and Fielding, of Fanny Burney, Jane Austen, and Walter Scott, there is scarcely an English novelist now read who died before Her Majesty's accession to the throne."

Mr. Paul then proceeds to give us a hasty survey of the English novelists of the last sixty years. We can do nothing more than extract from his lengthy article some of the more striking and epigrammatic sentences, in which he hits off the characteristics of various authors as he goes on at race-horse speed down the illustrious line.

He begins with Dickens, of whom he says: "It is impossible to imagine a time when Dickens will not be regarded as one of the great masters of English fiction." Again:

"The imitators of Dickens, so numerous and so tiresome, are apt, illogically enough, to make people forget that he was among the most original of writers. He was the Hogarth of literature, painting with a broad brush, never ashamed of caricature, but always an artist, and not a dauber. There is little or no resemblance between *Falstaff* and *Sam Weller*. But they are the two comic figures which have most thoroughly seized upon the English mind. . . . I take it that the key to a proper understanding of Dickens and his work is to be found in the master-passion of the man. Dickens was a born actor. When he was not performing in private theatricals himself, he liked best to be at the play. The famous soliloquy of Jaques expressed his philosophy of life far more thoroughly than it expressed Shakespeare's. To Dickens all the world was a stage, and all the men and women merely players. When he wrote, he had in his mind not so much the way in which things would have happened as the way in which they would act. . . . His influence upon literature, apart from his contributions to it, has been disastrous. The school of Dickens, for which he can not be held responsible, is happily at last dying out. . . . With their disappearance from the stage, and consignment to oblivion, the reputation of the great man they injured is relieved from a temporary strain."

We get this on Thackeray:

"The great glory of Thackeray is that the spread of education has continually widened the circle of his readers. . . . His alleged cynicism is only skin-deep. It is chiefly the mask of senti-

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ment or the revolt against insincerity. Thackeray was a moralist to the backbone. He was no votary of art for art's sake, no disinterested chronicler of human folly or crime. He had, or thought he had, a mission to redeem the world from cant. Unless melancholy and indignation are cynicism, there never was a less cynical writer."

With Dickens and Thackeray, we are told, and superior to them in some respects, must be ranked Charlotte Brontë, "a writer of commanding and absolutely original genius." And of Charlotte's sister: "In the history of the human mind there is nothing more wonderful than Emily Brontë, who died before she was thirty." Of Emily's poems, Mr. Paul says, the best "are among the finest in the language," and her novel "Wuthering Heights," "with its grim force, its weird intensity, and its flashes of imaginative splendor," is "like a solitary volcano rising from a dull flat plain." Again: "The Brontës had no models, and they have had no imitators. Nature broke the mold. They came from mystery, and to mystery they returned. They are not apparently the product of any specific age, nor is their style marked by the characteristics of any assignable period."

The writer thinks that George Eliot's fame "has perceptibly, even considerably, declined," and accounts for the fact as follows:

"George Eliot does undoubtedly suffer from having been too much the child of her age. She lived in intellectual society; she was immersed in current controversies; she picked up the discoveries, and even the slang, of science; she introduced into her stories allusions which only professors could understand. One can hardly say with truth that, as a chain is no stronger than its weakest link, so a novel is not more durable than its most perishable part. But it is dangerous to put anything into works of fiction except human nature."

Her work, like Browning's, we are told further, is being sifted, and while *Romola*, *Felix Holt*, and *Daniel Deronda* may disappear, one can not doubt that *Hetty Sorel* and *Dinah Morris*, *Tom* and *Maggie Tulliver*, *Silas* and little *Effie*, are immortal.

Mrs. Gaskell, Charlotte Brontë's biographer, Mr. Paul calls "one of the most charming and exquisite writers of English fiction that ever lived," and of "Cranford" he says: "The doors of 'Cranford' open on the street. The windows open on the infinite."

Here is the way Mr. Paul hits off Bulwer, whom he places in the second class of novelists and not very high in that:

"The first Lord Lytton—Bulwer Lytton as he is commonly called—was already a notable personage in 1837. 'Pelham' was nearly ten years old, and for sheer cleverness 'Pelham' would be hard to beat. It was written before the author took to preaching and became a bore. Bulwer Lytton was one of the most intolerable preachers that ever lived. He was tedious, pompous, affected, and insincere. He was what Thackeray was not—a real cynic. The delicious impertinence of 'Pelham,' the frankly free love of 'Ernest Maltravers,' whatever else may be thought of them, are genuine. The rant of 'Night and Morning,' of 'Alice,' or of 'What Will He Do with It?' is on the intellectual level of a field preacher without his genuineness of conviction."

Disraeli is characterized as "the chief of political novelists," but, says the writer, "I never heard of any one who did not care for politics and yet admired the novels of Mr. Disraeli." Trollope's books, it is to be feared, are dead; but it is a pity. He stimulated the taste for which he catered, and when he died the taste for his stories of second-rate society died out too.

The "novel with a purpose" is the product of the Victorian age. Dickens began it, but had too much fun to keep at it all the time. Charles Kingsley was more in earnest, too earnest for literary perfection. "Kingsley had this advantage over Dickens, that he did not wait until abuses were removed before he denounced them." He never wrote a story for the story's sake, and "the belief, which he never lost, that something tremendous was going to happen about the middle of next week kept him always on the stretch and half spoiled him for a man of letters." Charles Reade understood better how to combine a moral with a story. "If novels with a purpose are to be written at all, they could hardly be written more wisely than Charles Reade wrote them." Yet the writer adds, somewhat contradictorily, "he carried sensationalism to the verge of vulgarity," and seems to have fallen into oblivion. With a brief mention of Whyte Melville and his "Gladiators" ("far above the 'Last Days of Pompeii' and not far below 'Hypatia'"), and of Wilkie Collins, Mr. Paul comes down to living novelists, whose number he views with dismay. "The burden of proof rests with every wholly or partially educated woman to prove that she has not written a novel." "In the early Victorian novel there may have been too much sentiment. In the late Victorian novel there is apt to be too much of everything. The smooth tale, generally of love, has become a crowded epitome of universal information." At the head of living writers of English fiction is placed George Meredith, of whom the writer goes on to speak as follows:

"His style is not a classical one. But it suits Mr. Meredith, as Carlyle's and Browning's suited them, because it harmonizes with his thought. Nobody says that Mr. Meredith's strong point was the simple and perspicuous narrative of events. He is not in the least like Wilkie Collins. He is not like anybody, except perhaps Peacock. But he is a great master of humor, of fancy, of sentiment, of imagination, of everything that makes life worth having. He plays upon human nature like an old fiddle. He knows the heart of a woman as well as he knows the mind of a man. His novels are romances, and not 'documents.' They are often fantastic, but never prosy. He does not see life exactly as the wayfaring man sees it. The 'realist' can not understand that that is a qualification and not a disability. A novel is not a newspaper. 'Mr. Turner,' said the critical lady, 'I can never see anything in nature like your pictures.' 'Don't you wish you could, ma'am?' growled the great artist. Mr. Meredith has the insight of genius and of poetical genius. But he pays the reader the compliment of requiring his assistance."

NOTES.

AT its last annual meeting, the National Educational Association directed its secretary, in publishing the proceedings, to follow such simplified spelling as might be recommended by a committee consisting of Dr. W. T. Harris, Superintendent Soldan of St. Louis, and Superintendent Balliet, of Springfield, Mass. The committee has recommended that the following words be spelled as here given: program, tho, altho, thoro, thorofare, thru, thruout, catalog, prolog, decalog, demagog, pedagog.

THE trouble in the office of *The Arena* has apparently been composed. The persons through whose manipulations Mr. B. O. Flower was ousted from control have in turn retired from all connection with the magazine. Mr. Flower does not, however, reassume the editorial functions. John Clark Ridpath, *LL.D.*, is the new editor, and Mr. Flower has consented to act as a special contributor, furnishing a paper each month. Probably Mr. Flower's threat to start a new magazine is the reason for this pacific result.

"IT is a humiliating confession," says *The Literary World* of Boston, "humiliating for somebody, tho we do not know where the responsibility rests—that Boston's new and to the eye outwardly magnificent Public Library building has hardly been fairly occupied and put into actual use before it is found to be seriously defective for its purpose, and an outlay ranging from $100,000 to $200,000 is called for, so to alter its machinery for the delivery of books as to enable it effectively to serve the public. It has looked from the beginning as if this great building was more of an architect's display and advertisement than a practical storehouse, consulting-room, and furnishing-office for the reading public."

GRORGE MOORE follows David Christie Murray in declaring that Robert Louis Stevenson's friends are hurting him with over-much praise. To show that "Stevenson is not the only man who ever lived who wrote English prose," Mr. Moore, writing for the London *Daily Chronicle*, quotes a passage from a new book, "The Secret Rose," by W. B. Yeats, and then says: "By the side of this beautiful prose, subtle, wistful as the moon shining upon mist, does not Stevenson's vision seem dry, hard, prosaic?" The passage quoted is as follows:

"It was one of those warm, beautiful nights, when everything seems carved of precious stones. The woods of the Sleuth Hound away to the South looked as tho cut out of green beryl, and the waters that mirrored them shone like opal. The roses he was gathering were like glowing rubies, and the lilies had the dull lustre of pearl. Everything had taken upon itself the look of something imperishable, except a glowworm, whose faint flame burnt on steadily among the shadows, moving hither and thither, the only thing that seemed alive, the only thing that seemed perishable as mortal hope."

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SCIENCE.

HOW FIRE CAUSES DEATH.

SCARCELY a day passes that we do not hear of a fire in which one or more persons have perished, and the terrible catastrophe in Paris is still fresh in our minds. We are apt to think that those who die thus suffer terribly before death comes to their relief, and the sensational details published in the daily press certainly do nothing to weaken this impression. Yet we are told by a writer in *The Hospital* (May 15) that death from fire is usually painless, and is commonly due not to direct burning but to suffocation. He says:

"Those who lose their lives in conflagrations do not by any means always suffer physical pain. In many cases, no doubt, sharp terror is the one thing of which the victim is conscious, and in many more, strange as it may seem, consciousness plays no part, life ceasing painlessly and without a struggle. . . .

"In great conflagrations gases are produced which have much the same effect [as chloroform or similar anesthetics], and it is a fact that of those who lose their lives in such catastrophes a considerable proportion pass into death without any evidence of having suffered. This result is produced especially when a fire has smoldered, when the access of air has at first been insufficient to cause complete combustion, and when that deadly gas, carbonic oxid, has sent its victims into lethal sleep before the actual flames have reached them.

"Of those, however, who have evidently struggled and fought, and whose charred corpses are afterward found in attitudes suggestive of violent efforts made in attempting to escape, it must not be imagined that they have of necessity been burned alive and have died in the agony which such contortions are popularly imagined to express.

"Death from agony is really death from shock, a condition in which the body is limp and helpless; whereas in death from suffocation struggling may go on even after consciousness has passed, and the strained attitude of the corpse may be expressive only of the final paroxysmal effort made in a state of entire unconsciousness.

"Suffocation in a fire depends on something more than mere carbonic-acid poisoning. It is the stoppage of the breathing by the stifling vapors which does the mischief. Carbonic acid would doubtless kill if it could be breathed, but any one who has attempted to enter a burning building will know that suffocation depends not on the stuff one breathes, but on the fact that one can not breathe at all. The lungs are as much deprived of their supply of oxygen as if the sufferer were plunged over head in water, and the struggle produced is much the same.

"While then we must admit the horror of the moment, the terror, the fight for breath, and finally the death from suffocation, we must remember that all this is often a matter of short duration, and that it is something very different from the slow torture of being burned alive."

The writer reminds us that, owing also to the excitement of the moment, the body of one who is in a great fire is probably insensible to pain, just as it often is in battle. He says:

"The instances are so frequent in which more or less severe and painful wounds have only been discovered after the necessity for action had passed away that we are driven to hope and to believe that, so long as all the energies are absorbed in the effort to escape, actual suffering, even from fire, may not be great—may even be unfelt."

Yet there is another, and not so comforting, side to the picture. Says the writer:

"It must be recognized that, while all this is true, there are cases in which people are actually burned alive—consumed little by little until the heart stops from shock.

"Familiar pictures of martyrs at the stake show us one of the conditions for such an event; the wind driving the smoke aside so that the head, the brain, and thus the consciousness, are left intact until the heart is stopped by sheer agony.

"It must always be remembered that no one can live or retain consciousness when actually within the flames. But those who are caught and held fast in the full blast of fresh air which is being drawn into the center of the conflagration can not be suffocated, they can not make those violent efforts which would numb their consciousness of pain; they can but wait and suffer until, as the result of agony or terror, let us hope the latter, their hearts stand still. This is indeed a terrible fate."

DETECTION OF WASTE OF ELECTRICITY ON TROLLEY-CARS.

IN spite of the decision of the German courts that electricity, not being a material substance, can not be stolen, those who own it are still trying to keep as much of it for legitimate uses as possible and to prevent other people from running off with it or wasting it. Chicago trolley-managers find that their motormen waste power by handling their controllers carelessly, and an indicator has been invented by I. R. Cravath, of that city, that records such waste and serves as a silent witness against the careless motor-man. The device is thus described by *Industries and Iron*, May 16:

"It has been shown by tests that the power wasted through careless handling of the controller is as much as 20 per cent. The greatest waste of the current occurs at starting and stopping; when starting carelessly only a small percentage of the power gives useful results in the form of acceleration of the car, the balance serving merely to heat the motors and resistances and wear out the equipment, while quite often the power is left on until the brakes are set. . . .

"This current-recorder consists of an oblong wooden box 35 inches long by 2¾ inches by 2¼ inches, in which a thin strip of alloy 17 inches long is placed vertically in a groove and is supported by a short piece of German silver wire of such cross-section as to be heated by the current which flows through it to operate the car. The strip of alloy is held against the wire by a weight clamped to the lower end of the strip. When the temperature of the wire has reached a certain point, due to the passage of the current through it, the wire melts its way through the alloy strip, thus allowing the strip and weight to descend. There is also an automatic short-circuiting device, as a precaution, to prevent injury to the recorder or the stoppage of the car should the hot wire melt under an abnormal current.

"The recorder, supplied with a new strip of alloy, is locked and given to the motorman at the beginning of each run, and is placed by him in the case fixed to the car; at the end of the run he returns the recorder to the office. The act of pushing the recorder into its case closes the car circuit through the recorder. Unless the recorder is in place the circuit is open and the car can not be started.

"The record kept in the office for each man is the number of miles run and the number of inches of metal melted, the recorder giving merely a comparative record of the performance of each motorman, as it does not record except when an excess of current is used. At the end of the month a bulletin is posted showing the performance of each man, and it is expected that this will have some effect in reducing the amount of power wasted.

"Careful tests of this device recently made showed a saving in power of nine per cent. after the recorders had been in service about two months. The device is equally practicable with road-carriages as with tram-cars, upon which it has up to the present time been tested."

Fever in Plants.—A phenomenon in wounded plants that seems to correspond exactly to what we should call fever in animals has been discovered in England by H. M. Richards. His experiments, which are described by him in *The Annals of Botany*, are thus epitomized in a note in *Natural Science* (May): "He finds that accompanying the increased rate of respiration is an increase in the temperature of the parts affected. A kind of fever supervenes, and as in the case of respiration, the disturbance runs a definite course, and attains its maximum some twenty-four hours after injury. It is interesting to note that the attempt to rally from an injury is accompanied by somewhat the same symptoms, increased rate of respiration and evolution of heat, in

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plants as in animals. Owing to the nature of the case the reaction is less obvious in the former than in the latter, and a delicate thermoelectric element was required to appreciate the rise in temperature; but compared with the ordinary temperature of plants in relation to the surrounding medium, the rise after injury is 'as great, if not greater than in animals.' The maximum in all the plants investigated was between two and three times the ordinary excess above the surrounding air. Potatoes proved the most satisfactory objects for experiment, and it was found that in massive tissues (such as potatoes or radishes afford) the effect of injury was local, whereas in the case of leaves (*e.g.*, onion-bulbs) much greater extent of tissue was sympathetically affected."

THE MOON'S INFLUENCE ON THE EARTH.

MOST of the old ideas about the influence of the moon on terrestrial affairs have been relegated by modern science to the limbo of superstitions. Yet once in a while a voice is heard suggesting that this may not be altogether well. Without accepting all the old-wives' stories of lunar influence, we may yet legitimately experiment and observe to see whether some of the traditional ideas may not have foundation in truth. The moon certainly is responsible for the greater part of tidal phenomena—this is certain. May not her influence extend in other directions? M. Henri de Parville, the new editor of *La Nature*, is sure that it does, and has thought so for years. In his review of science in *Le Correspondant* (Paris, May 10), he takes occasion again to say a few words on the subject, some of which are translated below:

"Every one knows the great part played by the moon in rural affairs. It is the moon that causes everything, good and bad, in the stable, in the house, and in the fields. . . .

"Of course the rôle of our satellite on earth is exaggerated a little; but, these exaggerations aside, it still exerts a sufficiently great influence on our planet. Regarding the action of the moon on the weather and on earthquakes, everybody knows the opinion that I have maintained for more than a quarter of a century and that is now beginning to have weight in the scientific world, but not without efforts. The problem is quite complex and, so far as the weather is concerned, the proof is difficult to present clearly. But on the other hand, prejudices are deeply rooted, even with scientists! . . . We may simply remark that the mechanism of the lunar influence is not at all what it was once thought to be. The moon acts on the progressive movement of atmospheric depressions, according to her declination, that is to say, her height above the horizon. Just as the sun in its annual course alters the latitude of the trade winds, so our satellite alters the latitude of the rain-bearing currents in her monthly course and causes them to prevail in one region or another, according to her declination. 'The moon is the same everywhere'; certainly, but its action is very different according to the latitude and the declination. The argument that is commonly brought up is as strong as if one should say that the sun is everywhere the same and that the temperature and the sky should be invariable in all climates. The problem has been badly understood, and therefore it is that we have remained so long without reaching its solution.

"We wish to examine to-day another side of the question—the influence of the moon on vegetation, which has been made the subject of very numerous controversies. . . . If we must speak with a certain reserve of the lunar influence on tree-growth, we should add that no one has shown that such influence does not exist."

After citing instances of the belief among the ancients that timber cut at certain phases of the moon for building-purposes is best, M. de Parville goes on to quote the observations of M. Rousset, already described in THE LITERARY DIGEST. His explanation is that in the tropics there is a monthly flow of sap in all trees, that corresponds to the time of the new moon, hence timber should not be cut till the close of the lunation. In countries where there is a winter, this does not hold good, at any rate in that season, tho M. de Parville regards the monthly flux of sap as certainly taking place at other seasons, even in our own latitudes. Of another consideration in the same line, M. de Parville speaks as follows:

"M. Rousset, in his critical study, calls to mind an experiment that I made a long time ago in the tropics, by planting side by side ten seeds in the wane of the moon and ten others at full moon. The plants sowed at new moon grew noticeably more rapidly than those at full moon. I explained this phenomenon by saying that the first appeared just in time to profit by the moon's light, while the others, after germination, were not exposed so long to the lunar rays. . . . The hypothesis may be good, but perhaps it does not correspond to the reality. Nevertheless, it is confirmed by an observation of M. Carbonnier, who has, on his part, shown that at full moon confervoid and cryptogamic vegetation is more active than in other lunar periods.

"However this may be, the arguments presented against the lunar influence are insufficient to reverse the popular prejudice. We see . . . that the best plan is never to reject old popular traditions from purely theoretical considerations."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MODERN PROGRESS IN THE HEALING ART.

IN an article on "Medicine in the Queen's Reign," Dr. Malcolm Morris draws a striking picture of the progress made in medicine and surgery during the past sixty years. Says Dr. Morris (*Nineteenth Century*, May):

"It is no idle boast, but the simple unvarnished truth, that medicine—in which term I include the whole art of healing, and the scientific laws on which its practise is based—has made greater progress during the last sixty years than it had done in the previous sixty centuries. . . . In 1837, it is hardly too much to say that the average medical practitioner knew little more about the diseases of the heart, lungs, stomach, liver, and kidneys than was known to Hippocrates. Auscultation had indeed been introduced some years before, but long after the commencement of Her Majesty's reign elderly gentlemen might be seen, when a stethoscope was offered to them at a consultation, to apply the wrong end to their ear. Fevers were classified with a sweet simplicity into 'continued' and 'intermittent,' and as late as in the 'fifties an eminent professor of surgery complained that his colleague, the professor of medicine, had invented a number of new-fangled varieties. Of nervous diseases nothing was known. The larynx was a *terra incognita*; of the ear it was said by the leading medical journal of the day, many years later than 1837, that the only thing that could be done in the way of treatment was to syringe out the external passage with water. The diagnosis and treatment of diseases of the skin had advanced little beyond John Hunter's famous division of such affections into those which sulfur could cure, those which mercury could cure, and those which the devil himself couldn't cure. . . .

"Broadly speaking, it may be said that the advance of the art of healing during the last sixty years has been along two main lines—the expansion of the territory of surgery, and the development of pathology, which concerns itself with the causes, processes, and effects of disease. . . .

"The progress of surgery in the present age is due to two discoveries of an importance unequaled in the previous history of the healing art—*anesthesia*, or the artificial abolition of pain, and *antisepsis*, or the prevention of infective processes in wounds."

Dr. Morris draws a vivid picture of the horrors of the operating-table, of which, he says, "there are men still living who can speak." The terror and agony caused by the surgeon's knife so aggravated the evil effects of operations that they were kept for a last resource, and many patients preferred death to undergoing them. Now the use of anesthetics has changed all this, and yet, incredible as it may seem, these blessings, instead of being welcomed as the last and best gift of the Almighty, were received with suspicion and even denunciation. One philanthropic divine anathematized chloroform as

"a decoy of Satan apparently offering itself to bless women [but]

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which will harden society, and *rob God of the deep earnest cries which arise in time of trouble for help!*"

Dr. Morris goes on:

"Simpson answered those fools according to their folly. He quoted Scripture to prove that the Almighty Himself performed the first operation under anesthesia, when He cast Adam into a deep sleep before removing his rib. He fought the battle of common sense with such convincing logic and such an overwhelming mass of evidence—chemical, physiological, clinical, and statistical—that he finally shamed his opponents into silence."

The ideal anesthetic, the writer admits—that is, one that shall destroy sensibility to pain, while not interfering with consciousness—is yet to be discovered. He continues:

"Even with its admitted inconveniences and possible risks, however, anesthesia has not only been in itself an immense step forward, but has been the most powerful factor in the rapid development of surgery during the last fifty years. Without it the marvelous victories of the knife, on which modern surgeons legitimately pride themselves, would have been impossible."

Of the second factor in modern surgery, the application of the germ theory of putrefaction to the treatment of wounds, Dr. Morris speaks as follows:

"It had long been a matter of common observation that very severe injuries were dealt with successfully by the *vis medicatrix naturæ* when the skin was unbroken, whereas open wounds even of a trivial character often festered and not seldom gave rise to blood-poisoning. Thus while a simple fracture of a bone was practically certain to heal without trouble, a compound fracture, in which there was a breach of the skin covering the wounded bone, was looked upon as so sure to be followed by evil consequences that immediate amputation of the limb was the rule of surgery in such cases. The discoveries of Pasteur and his followers furnished a key to these facts."

This key was, as we all know now, that the trouble was due, not to anything inherent in the healing process, but to the introduction of germs from the air. The remedy, of course, is to keep the germs out. To quote again:

"The results of the application of the principle are seen in every department of surgical practise. The risks of surgery have been lessened to such an extent that the statistics of most of the greater operations before the antiseptic treatment came into general use are now valueless for purposes of comparison. A few figures will serve to show the difference. Till a comparatively recent period the proportion of cases in which death followed amputation of a limb in the large city hospitals of Great Britain was at least 1 in 3; in a series of 2,089 cases collected by Simpson it was as high as 1 in 2.4. In the Paris hospitals about the middle of the century the death-rate after amputation was nearly 1 in 2; in 1861 it was 3 in 5, and a few years later it was estimated at 58 per cent. In Germany and Austria things were not much better; the published statistics of one most skilful surgeon show a proportion of deaths following amputation of 43 to 46 per cent. Nowadays such figures in the practise of any hospital surgeon would probably lead to an inquiry by the proper authorities. . . .

"The modern surgeon, clad in antisepsis, as the Lady in 'Comus' was 'clothed round with chastity,' defies the 'rabble rout of microbes, and dares things which only a short time ago were looked upon as beyond the wildest dreams of scientific enthusiasm. It is scarcely twenty years since the late Sir John Erichsen declared in a public address that operative surgery had nearly reached its furthest possible limits of development. He pointed out that there were certain regions of the body into which the surgeon's knife could never penetrate, naming the brain, the heart, and the lung as the most obvious examples of such inviolable sanctuaries of life. Within the last fifteen years the surgeon has brought each of these organs, which constitute what Bichat called the 'tripod of life,' within his sphere of conquest. In the brain the researches of physiologists such as Broca, Hitzig, Hughlings Jackson, and Ferrier made it possible in many cases to determine the exact seat of abscesses and tumors, and it was found that with the use of antiseptic precautions the brain substance could be dealt with as freely as any other structure."

We can not follow Dr. Morris into details in his wonderful recital of the modern triumphs of surgery, nor have we room to quote much of what he says of the progress of medicine proper. Under this latter head he mentions first the increase in precision of diagnosis due to the use of delicate instruments such as the ophthalmoscope, for examining the eye; the laryngoscope, for looking into the windpipe; the stethoscope, for listening to sounds in the chest; the sphygmograph and cardiograph for recording the beats of the pulse and the heart, and the clinical thermometer, which "has given definiteness to our conception of fever," not to mention the spectroscope and microscope, and that latest wonder, Roentgen radiation. Another factor is the development of specialism, and still another is in "the knowledge of the nature and causes of disease." In this latter line, the "germ theory" stands out prominent as "no longer a theory, but a body of established truths." Dr. Morris would not, however, carry it too far. He says:

"The doctrine that every disease is a kind of fermentation caused by a specific micro-organism is so fascinating in its simplicity that it is in danger of being treated by some enthusiasts as if it were a master-key which unlocks all the secret chambers of pathology. It is becoming clear, however, that if microbes are necessary causes of a large number of diseases, they are sufficient causes of very few. The living body itself and its environment must be taken into account. Hence there are signs in various quarters of a reaction against the exaggerated cult of the microbe, and the minds of some of the most advanced investigators are turning once more to the cellular pathology, which till quite recently was spoken of as a creed outworn. It is recognized that the living cell itself is an organism varying in form and in function, and thus presenting an analogy with the different species of microbes. Like these, the cell secretes products that have a decided influence on the economy of which they form part. It has been shown by MM. Armand Gautier, Charrin, and Bouchard that the organism in its normal state manufactures poisonous substances, and that those products may under certain conditions be hurtful to itself, causing an 'autointoxication,' which may manifest itself in various forms of disease."

After noting that a change in our ideas of disease of course involves a corresponding change in treatment, Dr. Morris notes that medicines are coming to be more and more of the nature of antidotes, to counteract or render innoxious the specific poison of the malady, whether made by a microbe or secreted in the cell. Thus we have antitoxin and its relatives. Another modern device is the employment of animal extracts, such as that of the thyroid gland, for strengthening defective parts. After a glance at the increasing number of drugs, many of which are of untold value in treatment, Dr. Morris concludes as follows:

"The greatest triumphs of all, however, in the realm of medicine in the Victorian age have been achieved in the prevention of disease and the maintenance of a high standard of public health. . . . [After] a long struggle against the powers of insanitary darkness, . . . typhus fever, which used to be a scourge of large towns, is now practically unknown; the mortality from 'fevers' in general has been very greatly reduced; cholera, which several times invaded these realms in the early years of Her Majesty's reign, has for a long time been prevented from gaining a footing on our shores; consumption is being brought more and more under control; several years have been added to the average of human life, and it is not only longer, but more comfortable and more effective."

"CHEMISTS understand," says *The Scientific American*, "that the laboratory at Cornell has the investigation of the 'rare earths' quite to itself in America. Yet it is doubtful if it is anywhere known what a mass of these costly elements has been accumulated at that institution. A recent inventory disclosed that of didymium, which sells for $7 an ounce, Cornell has 300 ounces; of cerium, quoted at $6 an ounce, 400 ounces; of lanthanum, worth $35 an ounce, 30 ounces; and considerable quantities of yet rarer 'rare earths' which can not be obtained upon the market at all. Professor Dennis, of Cornell, has made a life study of these elements, and has notably added to scientific knowledge in this field."

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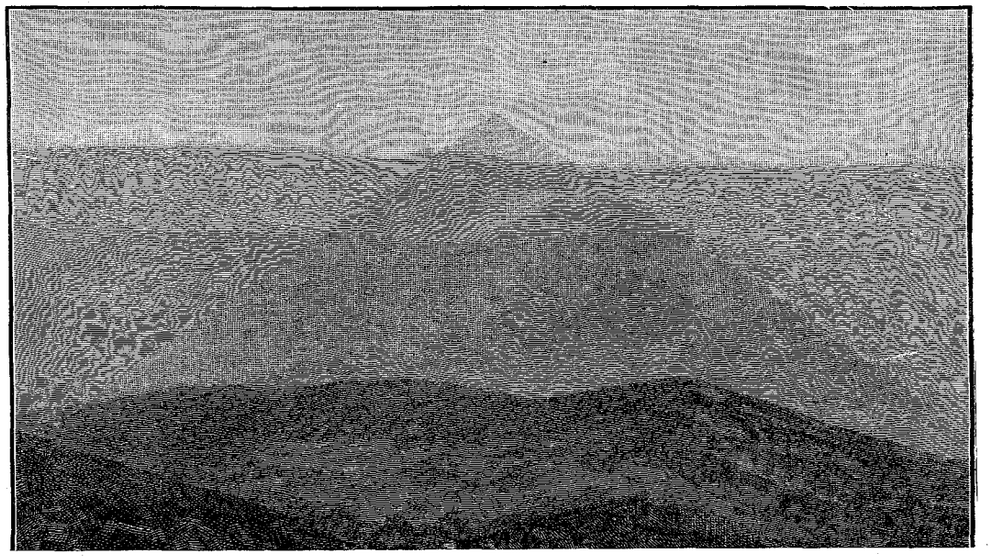
SHADOWS OF MOUNTAINS ON THE SKY.

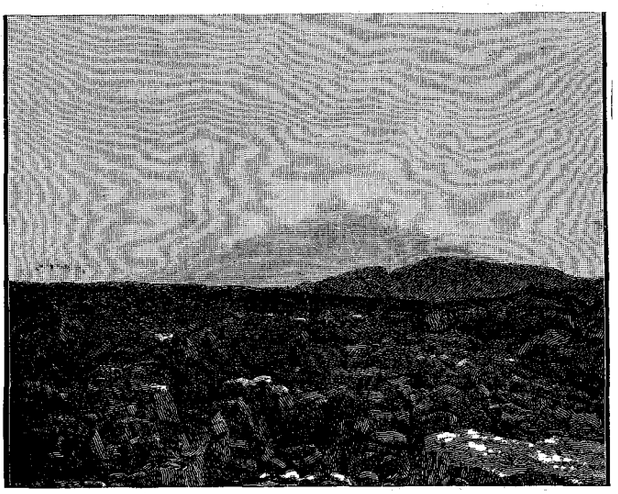
THE following interesting pictures of shadows cast on the sky by high mountain peaks are reproduced from *The Scientific American*, with the accompanying brief description:

"A high, prominent mountain peak, which towers above all its neighbors, will, when the sun is near the horizon, cast a distinct shadow upon the clouds behind it; and at times this shadow is very marked indeed. The larger photograph which we reproduce shows the shadow of Mount Hood cast in this way by the rays of the setting sun. The outline of the mountain extends across the center of the picture, while in the distance other ridges are dimly visible through the smoke clouds, upon which the shadow of the peak is projected. The height of Mount Hood is 11,225 feet. That the clouds are by no means necessary, however, in order to obtain a shadow, is demonstrated by the other photograph, which shows the shadow of Pike's Peak cast upon a perfectly clear sky. This famous peak is 14,147 feet high. The air in the high, upper region about the peak is so very clear that it seems wellnigh impossible a shadow should be cast upon it; but, however clear it may appear to the eye, it contains enough dust particles or motes to receive the shadow of the peak, and thus a startingly distinct silhouette of the mountain is produced.



SHADOW CAST BY MOUNT HOOD ON THE CLOUDS.

"If one happens to be near the top of a high peak toward sundown, and on the side away from the sun, a good idea of this interesting phenomenon may be readily obtained; but as most people seldom have the fortune to be so placed, we feel sure our readers will be interested in seeing how it appears in the eye of the ever-present camera."



SHADOW CAST BY PIKE'S PEAK ON THE SKY.

The Ever-Increasing Company of the Asteroids.—Of the asteroids, those tiny planetary bodies that move around the sun in an endless belt, John A. Paterson speaks as follows in his presidential address before the Astronomical and Physical Society of Toronto, Canada, published as part of its annual report (Toronto, 1897): "The roll-call of the asteroids, the pigmy children of the sun, continues to increase. They now number four hundred and forty, of which nineteen have been discovered in 1896. Of these, Charlois discovered five; Wolff caught five, all in the same plate, on the 7th September last. Their nomenclature has been very perplexing. They are now numbered with a circle around the number. Such names as the following distinguish the older ones: Elsa, Lamberta, Martha, Isabella, Bianca, Stephania, Lucia, Rosa, Henrietta, Barbara, Carolina, Ida, Bettina, Clementina, Augusta, Alma, Antonia, Elvira, Paulina, Lucretia, Clorinda, Clarissa, Katharina, etc.—they read marvelously like the register of a girls' school, altho such other names as Chicago, Ilmatar, Ingeborg, seem to indicate that girls' names had been exhausted. They are, moreover, like children in a crowded street, perpetually getting lost and after the lapse of years turning up in the grasp of some astronomer who has been fishing after them with a photographic plate in space, and then being put down in the star catalog again. One, for instance, Menippe, discovered in 1878 wandering about in the zone between Mars and Jupiter, was rediscovered in 1896, because, perhaps, it was leap year. The poor little thing, I presume, was too little to stay where she ought to have been; but now, with eighteen years' more experience of life, she has come back to the catalog. I can not blame her for giddy youth, because she left the cradle of the sun ages before our mother earth did, but she must have got mixed up among her numerous small sisters or perhaps loitered on the way with some brother bearing a Russian name."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

AS an example of an unsuccessful tho praiseworthy attempt to give scientific news, *Science* instances a recent account of three months' work of the Lowell Observatory, published in the New York *Tribune* for April 17. In this account we are told that Dr. T. J. See, whom *The Tribune* calls "Dr. Lee," "announces that since January 1 more than three hundred thousand double and triple stars had been measured." *Science* remarks that "this is doing finely—twenty-three of them 'measured' per minute, day and night, more than half 'new,' as *The Tribune* tells us!" The immensity of the work reminds one of that forced march of Cæsar's—twelve million miles in one night, according to a schoolboy's rendition of the Latin.

THE FARMER AND THE TELEPHONE IN ALABAMA.—*Electricity* is responsible for the following bit of news, which is interesting if true: "Until within a few months, telephone lines have been unknown in Alabama outside of cities, but recently many towns have established telephonic connection. Some of the ignorant farmers had heard of this, but they could not understand how it was that a man in one place could speak to another 100 miles away. It so happened that about the time the long-distance telephone was run out of Huntsville, Ala., the price of cotton depreciated several points. The farmer is jealous of quotations of his cotton, and being unable to account for the slump in any other way, laid it to the telephone. At first it was but a mere suggestion, but later it became the actual belief along the line built by the Georgia and Alabama Company. So thoroughly imbued were they with this idea that they took the law into their own hands, and the courts have been appealed to by the corporation to protect its lines. On more than one occasion poles have been chopped down and wires cut into by farmers in their belief that they were responsible for the low price of cotton. One line in particular, extending from Gadsden to Walnut Grove, has been the victim of this belief at least half a dozen times. One farmer, after breaking the wire in two, tied one end to his wagon and pulled down seven miles of it."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

A MUCH discussed little work has been published recently by Dr. H. Schell, professor of apologetics in the Roman Catholic theological faculty at Würzburg, entitled "Der Katholizismus als Princip des Fortschritts" ("Catholicism as the Principle of Progress"). This work has attracted a great deal of attention and is especially attacked by the Roman Catholic press on account of the conclusions it sets forth in reference to the attitude of that church toward scientific research. It is characterized by a warm patriotic feeling and by a pronounced anti-Roman and anti-Jesuit tone. Its ideas are based on the "scientific inferiority" of Catholicism as compared with Protestantism. Roman Catholicism, Dr. Schell thinks, is by no means the force in popular thought, life, and action that it ought to be, considering its numerical strength, nor does it contribute its proportional share to the scientific researches of the age. Schell analyzes the why and wherefore of this and finds two causes, both of them in the church itself. He finds that in scientific research the religious control of the reasoning powers and of the individuality of the Catholic investigator, by the principle of obedience to the church teachings, is so great that an objective examination of the data and an objective investigation of their meaning is almost impossible. In Catholic thought the one supreme purpose of scholarship is to bring harmony between the facts of nature and the doctrines drawn from supernatural revelation. The spirit that compels such a purpose he regards as a fruit of Jesuitism. A second reason for the inferiority of Roman Catholic scholarship he sees in this, that in Catholic circles the contrast between the terrestrial and the divine is emphasized more than elsewhere, as is also the view that the terrestrial and all things created are designed to be the bearers and medium of the divine. Dr. Schell says:

"The ideal that controls theological progress is the conviction that there is a harmony existing between correctly interpreted revelation and correctly interpreted nature. We do not believe the church in this sense, that, on account of this belief, it is a matter of indifference to us what the facts, sources, and documents teach. The ecclesiastical control of teaching can not imply that the faithful are filled with a fatalistic indifference; for the church is not an elastic power that can adapt itself to all contingencies, even should these be contradictory. There is no honor showed to the church's office of teaching if it is declared to be independent of the control of objective sources of truth. Catholicism signifies a covenant of peace between reason and faith, between research and revelation."

In discussing the special subject of "Conservatism and Progress," Dr. Schell seeks to harmonize these through the definition of conservation as, in a higher sense, signifying that tendency of the intellect and of the will which, in all researches and problems, has a *constructive* aim. True freedom of thought and progress does not, he maintains, consist in doubting and questioning, in destroying the existing order of things; but rather in the *construction* of a more perfect knowledge and order of things.

On the subject of "The Ideal of Catholicism," after describing the recent Diana Vaughan frauds, he deplores the influence of the Roman nationalities of Southern Europe on the development of the church. He says:

"We have in recent years been taught that the most vulgar exhibitions of romantic superstition are to be regarded as churchly and as Catholic faith, and this all the more in proportion as these were of a crude and tangible character. For genuine Catholicism, the spirit of the Romance nations can become all the more a source of danger, because it has within its fold the center of the hierarchy, which gives it a certain species of prerogative and pre-eminence; and it is not the nature of the religion of Romance nationalities to deepen and spiritualize faith and life."

Schell criticizes rather sharply the Jesuit theology on account of its exclusiveness. Among other things he says:

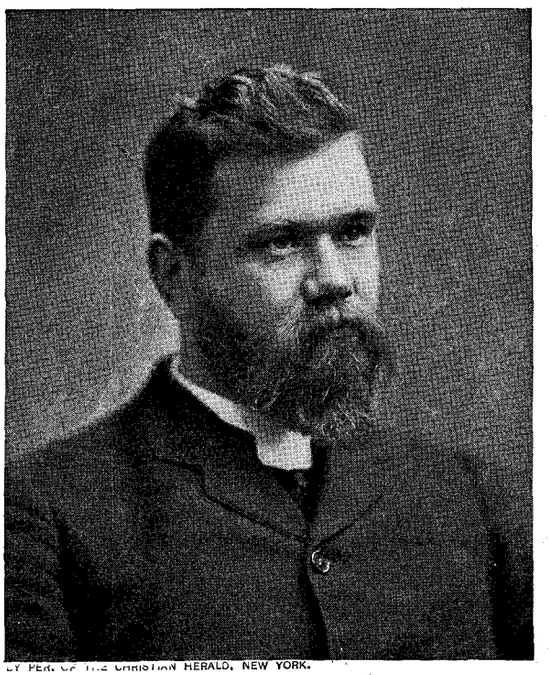
"He who contends against intolerance when it is directed against himself should himself also practise tolerance. We are fighting for the abrogation of the law excluding Jesuits from Germany; but even if this is achieved, the cure for the inferiority of the Catholics in Germany has not yet been found, as many believe. For notwithstanding the free activity of the Jesuit Order in other lands, the inferiority of Catholic science in those countries is even greater than it is in this country."

Schell's book is so free in its expressions and combative in character that it is confidently expected it will be placed on the index of prohibited books.

"THE SCOTTISH SPURGEON."

REV. JOHN McNEILL, who has been for several weeks conducting revival services in New York, is thus described as to his personal characteristics by Morris Phillips in his *Home Journal* (May 19):

"He is in the prime of life; can talk in our largest halls without seeming effort, for an hour or two at a time, two or three times a day, every day in the week, without physical or mental



BY PER. OF THE CHRISTIAN HERALD, NEW YORK.

REV. JOHN McNEILL.

fatigue. His prayer is delivered with marked feeling, his diction is simple but beautiful, his illustrations descriptive, well drawn, and frequently poetic. McNeill's accent is unmistakably Scotch, but it is not difficult to follow him, as it sometimes is to follow Dr. Macgregor, who gives you Turks in two syllables—'Turreks'—and doesn't know it; denies it, in fact. McNeill, when taking out his Jurgensen, will say, 'I look my watch,' instead of 'I look at my watch,' but that is unimportant, and it is Scotch.

"There is nothing small, puny, affected, or lukewarm about him; he is convincing. He is full of health and strength, full of religion, and full of humor. He is so enthusiastic that he is wholly unconscious of the effect he produces. While delivering a sermon, he will run his fingers wildly through his shock of thick brown hair; he buttons and unbuttons his coat every two or three minutes without realizing what he is doing; he thrusts his

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hands in his trousers pockets frequently and unwittingly; and is so interested in his work and so overflowing with high spirits and enthusiasm that occasionally he becomes, not only dramatic, but theatric and noisy, exploding rather than uttering his words, clapping his hands and stamping with his feet. But none of these gesticulations or movements are made for effect; he is so full of good spirits that, while he is not at work, and while the choir is singing, he will beat time with his hands, tap the floor with his feet, and join in the song, all unknowingly. You hear no Moody grammatical slips, and he never says ladies and gentlemen, but always men and women."

The following facts concerning McNeill's life are given by *The Christian Herald:*

"Mr. McNeill is now devoting himself exclusively to evangelistic work and has not only conducted revival services throughout Great Britain, but has done very successful work in Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, South Africa, and India. He is a Scotchman by birth. His father was a worker in the quarries of Houston in Renfrewshire, where John was born in 1854. He gained the rudiments of education and secured employment afterward on the Caledonian railroad, but his active Christian work in the Sunday-school, the Young Men's Christian Association, and in the homes of the poor soon showed his capacity for higher work in the Lord's vineyard. He was sent to the Edinburgh University and subsequently to the University of Glasgow, where he matriculated with honor. He became minister of an important Free Church in Edinburgh, and after a period of successful labor there went to London to become pastor of Regent Square Presbyterian Church. In both spheres his labors were wonderfully blessed; but the frequent applications which reached him from all quarters to conduct special services led eventually to his resigning his London pastorate to become a servant to the churches of the world. One of his most remarkable labors was at the World's Fair at Chicago, where, at the invitation of Mr. Moody, for six months he preached to immense congregations."

A CALL FOR MORE "SUPERCILIOUSNESS."

REV. ARTHUR RITCHIE is the rector of St. Ignatius's Protestant Episcopal Church in New York city, and is classed as one of the High-Church party in his denomination. In addition to his regular clerical duties, Mr. Ritchie edits a monthly paper for his church called *The Catholic Champion*. In a recent issue of this paper appeared an editorial in which the following paragraphs are found.

"As a matter of fact, could anything be more utterly contemptible than the great American sects? We do not refer to respectable religions, like the Presbyterian and the Lutheran, the fruit of the travail of the sixteenth century, but such low, time-serving, ignorant superstitions as the Baptist Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the like. In the East these parvenu folk do not dare to raise their heads, or, if they do, they are laughed at for their pains. But no doubt in the West it is different, and quite possibly there a Baptist minister or a Methodist minister may consider himself as on an equality with the Church clergyman! Should this be the case, a little 'arrogance' and 'superciliousness' would be very useful and highly commendable. Those who boast that they derive their office from the people should be made to know, if not to feel, that they are removed by an infinite chasm from those who derive their mysterious powers from above and are the vicegerents of heaven.

"Of course, in matters non-ecclesiastical there should be Christian politeness shown to every one according to his position in life; but even in such matters dissenting ministers should be made to feel their inferiority. All we mean is that people should be kept in their proper place, and surely the proper place of a priest of the church is very different from that of a minister of any sect.

"There is another fact well worthy of note, that the strength of the church is usually in proportion to the culture and refinement of the population. We do not mean that it is at all exclusively among the rich and highly educated that the church makes their converts, but that in a state of society where people know their true position in life, whether it be great or small, where the doctrine of the catechism is a reality, that all must order themselves lowly and reverently to all their betters, just in these communities the church is strong. And where Yankee spread-eagleism prevails, there the church is found only among the few people who have been educated elsewhere among more favorable circumstances. In view of these facts we maintain that, so far as this church being in fault for too much hauteur and exclusiveness, she has been in too many instances ready to lower her standard."

As might have been expected, these utterances have given great offense in some quarters, particularly in those denominations to which such uncomplimentary reference was made. Thus *The Christian Advocate* (Methodist, New York), in its issue of May 26, devotes a three-column editorial to the subject. After quoting the foregoing extract from *The Catholic Champion*, *The Advocate* says:

"We present these extracts as a curiosity, as affording materials for the study of human nature, as an illustration of the direct tendency, on a certain class of minds, of exclusive claims, and of the nature of spiritual pride, of all forms of pride the most corrupting to the mind and deadening to natural sensibility.

"So blind is 'Father' Ritchie to his spiritual state, that in the face of the most explicit words of Christ he proposes to treat with contempt nine millions of communicants in the United States, baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost—the largest religious bodies in the Christian world who have received no support from the state."

The Advocate next proceeds to draw some comparisons between the work accomplished by the Methodist Church in this country and that of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the fields of education, philanthropy, and reform. "They" (the Methodists), it says, "may raise their heads when they remember that, tho struggling for seventy-five years to keep pace with the growth of the country in the erection of churches, they have, during the last sixty years, built five times as many colleges and preparatory academies as the body which Mr. Ritchie essays to represent (which in this work has been conspicuously defective); and that many of these colleges are rapidly approaching a degree of development which compares favorably with the great institutions established by Presbyterians and Congregationalists in an earlier period." In conclusion *The Advocate* says:

"It is not inconsistent with its present claim for that church [Protestant Episcopal] to decline recognizing any Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregational, Lutheran, or Methodist orders; but if any of its representatives attack the orders of others, or speak disparagingly of them, they need not lay the flattering unction to their souls that there is 'a half conscious fear or suspicion that the High Church claims are true.'

"It has been our fortune in New England, the West, and the Middle States to know quite intimately a large number of Baptist, Presbyterian, and Congregational ministers, and naturally a great number of our own order; and not one have we heard express such a suspicion, and of those that we have known who have left these denominations, all but two have assigned other and usually personal reasons for the change.

"We should be sorry to lead our readers who have never heard of 'Father' Ritchie to suppose that all, or even a majority, of the clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this part of the world sympathize with this spirit. A delightful acquaintance with many of them enables us to assert that they are humiliated that such language and such a spirit exists in their communion; but they are helpless to suppress it."

The Independent (undenom.) quotes a part of the paragraphs from *The Champion* above noted, with this remark: "There is no answer to be made to this. We simply show it as an example to be avoided, after the fashion in which the Spartan parent would teach his children the shame of drunkenness."

The Christian Work (undenom.) makes the same quotation and adds:

"'Dissenting ministers should be made to feel their inferiority!'

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Ah, but, Dr. Ritchie, suppose, just for once, that they are not inferior, how are you going to make 'dissenters' feel what doesn't exist? Or, supposing them to be inferior, how would you have enabled one of your clerical assistants to cause such men as Thomas Chalmers, or James McCosh, or the sainted William M. Taylor to 'feel their inferiority' to your young friend just out of the seminary? The woods are full of men—most of them quite young—who would like to make greater men recognize them as equals, not to say superiors. If Dr. Ritchie has a recipe which will enable a man to obtain a certificate of superiority by simply filing a claim for it, he can get enough for the recipe to complete the great central tower and probably also the two naves of the new Cathedral of St. John."

WHAT THERE IS IN PRAYER.

JAMES MORRIS WHITON undertakes to set forth a theory of prayer that will answer the demands of this analytic and rationalistic generation. He begins with a general defense of prayer from scientific analogy as follows (*The Forum*, May):

"The fact revealed by the spectroscope, that the physical elements of the earth exist also in the stars, supports the faith that a moral nature like our own inhabits the universe. That the moral nature which is above the world is a supplicable nature, equally with the moral nature embodied in man, is a thoroughly reasonable assumption. Prayer, therefore, is grounded in reason, and needs only a rational development in thought and in expression."

The writer thinks with Prof. Joseph Henry that the whole progress of physical science is due to "prayer" for knowledge, the prayer of the intellect, even as in religion we have the prayer of the heart for moral regeneration. The petitionary prayer is but one form of prayer, even in religion, and that a form likely to grow less and less important.

Most of the objections urged to prayer, we are told, are really urged against outgrown fallacies. These fallacies are classified as follows:

"(1) The conception that prayer to God is comparable with prayer to the ruler of a state, who takes a petition into consideration, and grants or denies it as he judges best; (2) the notion that prayer aims to bring in an interfering power to alter miraculously the physical order of things; (3) the idea, akin to this, that prayer for moral betterment, as for the forgiveness of sins, can break the connection of cause and effect, so as to avert the natural consequences of any breach of physical or moral law."

The chief aim of the article is to show how the efficacy of prayer may be recognized without resort to any of these fallacies. Thus prayer for divine assistance is efficacious, not because it changes the divine purpose, but because it "serves to focus our will in that line and to engage us more actively in pursuing it." Yet the effect can not rightly be said to be simply a reflex effect upon ourselves. "Of course, the primary effect of the prayer for uprightness is a reflex effect upon the man who prays; but it does not end there: something more ensues. The reflex effect in him passes directly outward into an objective effect produced by the uprightness which the prayer has promoted. This effect is extended to other men, and to what they do. It influences the course of human affairs in ever-widening circles."

The prayer to God to heal the sick is efficacious in certain cases, the writer thinks, not because it causes a miracle to be performed, but because it effects "the substitution of a psychological for a physiological cause of cure." The prayer for rain even should not be declared irrational, because we know that our own wills, working by certain physical methods, may effect changes upon the climate, and no one can say positively that there are no invisible intelligences superior to us whose wills may accomplish the same end and who may be moved by our supplications. Suspense of judgment is necessary at this point.

The prayer, again, for moral betterment may be efficacious without violating the law of cause and effect, simply by bringing us into the proper attitude toward God. "When we ask a neighbor's forgiveness, we ask him to change his mind toward us. But we do not ask God to change; at least, not if we think wisely. Our request to our neighbor implies that we feel toward him as we ought. This is all that our prayer to God can rationally imply. It is complete in its expression of the return of a wayward will to loyalty and obedience." Professor Tyndall's prayer-test is needless. The efficacy of prayer is attested by the ethical development of mankind; by its close relation to the moral power of those pioneers who have wrought most influentially for the moral progress of the world.

The writer then proceeds to a more constructive line of thought as follows:

"Prayer, as Coleridge insisted, is a very different thing from saying prayers. It is an activity of the whole man. Real prayer engrosses and focuses feeling and desire, thought and will, for the direction of the whole self upon its object. Here, undeniably, a real force is apparent, as much as in any movement of our will upon the external world. It is the force of an ethico-spiritual nature, not isolated, but related to nature of the same kind, both seen and unseen. To deem it futile, 'a chimera buzzing in a vacuum,' is to escape one difficulty by rushing into a greater—at least for any one who remembers that action and reaction are inseparable.

"The records of the Society for Psychical Research abound in fully verified instances of communications sped from friend to friend, in a moment across hundreds of miles, in some supreme crisis which called into momentary action some previously latent energy of the spirit. Such cases suggest the yet undiscovered possibilities and limits of prayer, considered simply as a mode of psychical force moving upon an unseen psychical environment, through which, as through the physical, divine forces are ever energizing in the interplay of action and reaction. That religious enthusiasm dwells closer to the springs of this mysterious force than our present science or philosophy is thoroughly credible. The saying attributed to Jesus, that, if He chose, He could by prayer summon myriads of spirits to His aid, is not to be thought the idle fantasy of one unique in spiritual insight and energy. Much more reasonable is it to suppose that men in an embryonic stage of moral and spiritual development are as incapable of employing such a force intelligently as are savages of using mathematical instruments. . . . What John Stuart Mill observed of justice is true of prayer. An interest of personal apart from general welfare is an element of impurity in it, and therefore an element of weakness. The Lord's Prayer significantly conforms to this law of efficiency. How notably is its reference to the personal and transient subordinated to and uplifted by its interest in the universal and eternal! . . .

"The question which some still think it worth while to ask, 'Why does a loving God, who knows our needs, require us to petition for their supply?' both reveals the fundamental misconception and brings into contrast the fundamental truth in regard to the whole subject. Dr. Edward Caird has noted, as a strange survival of the pagan mode of thought among Christians, that some of them still conceive of prayer as an attempt to get God to do man's will, rather than as an aspiration to get God's will done by men. Jesus has expressly cautioned us not to think that either He prays or we pray for the purpose of informing God about our needs or inducing Him to supply them. What end, then, is served by petitionary prayer for the things God knows we need, and that He wills to bestow? Surely no thinker is unaware that verbal expression has much to do with both clearness of thought and the concentration of attention and will. It is reason enough for engaging in petitionary prayer, that the confession in words of our wants to God enables and pledges us in a clearer consciousness to work out more reverently and patiently the divine conditions of their supply."

PROF. GEORGE ADAM SMITH, in a recent lecture in Scotland, referred to what he considers a serious defect in the praise service of the churches. In no collection has he found a single hymn fitted to arouse interest in the work of our city missions and the condition of the poorer people comparable to that aroused by "Greenland's Icy Mountains" and similar hymns on foreign missions, and he urges that hymn writers take notice and supply the want.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF HARNACK'S LATEST UTTERANCES.

THE discussion in religious circles over Professor Harnack's "History of Early Christian Literature," to which extended reference has already been made in our pages, gives no promise of a speedy ending. Writing in *The Universalist* (Chicago) of the book itself and of the debate which has been going on about it, President Atwood, of the Canton Theological School, says:

"The incidental question that has attracted our attention is the dependence of all parties on authority. The controversy between Dr. Behrends and Dr. Abbott, for instance, is little more than an array of names. A careful catalog has just been made up of the numbers, respectively, of 'advanced' and 'conservative' critics in Germany and Holland. It shows a comfortable balance on the conservative side, and the souls of the fearful are reassured. But a headlong follower of the advanced school of critics exclaims, 'Holtzmann and Pfleiderer and Julicher are on our side'; and mention of these authorities throws the traditionalist into spasms again. Who are these critics that we should pin our faith so firmly to them? Learned men and experts, but quite fallible. They are successors of other men once quoted with equal confidence; they will be succeeded by still other men who also will have their day. The truth is, in our limitless ignorance we must have authorities for our opinions. Harnack is to-day a high authority on the early literature of the church. But any one who reads him will discover that he is often arbitrary and capricious. To follow him blindly, whether in his conservative or in his radical leanings, is to go on a road which will often have to be retraced."

The Standard (Baptist, Chicago) is also of the opinion that more value and significance have been attached to Professor Harnack's utterances than the case wholly warrants. It quotes a note which Dr. A. J. F. Behrends appends to his recent volume, "The Old Testament under Fire," summing up what he deems to be the true significance of Harnack's early dates for some of the New-Testament books. Says Dr. Behrends: "Baur is discredited by the most commanding voice of our time. Scholarship comes back to the faith of the nursery. The great have surrendered to the lowly. The foolishness of God has triumphed. The cottages have conquered the universities. The firm foundation of God standeth. For the critical postulates of the school of Wellhausen are identical with those of the school of Baur. They have been discredited in the region of the New-Testament literature, which emerges unharmed from keen dissection."

On this *The Standard* says:

"We are afraid the distinguished preacher and author above quoted, together with a number of other readers of a part of Harnack's book, has overestimated its importance as a contribution to apologetic literature. Harnack is not an apologist, nor is it wise to take his opinions as to the general trend of criticism apart from his own conclusions, some of which are anything but conservative or orthodox. We wonder whether the writers who, with good reason, welcome his protest against the excesses of some higher critics are mindful of the fact that Harnack himself attributes the fourth gospel and the three epistles of John in their present form to John the Presbyter, not to the apostle? Have they noticed that, while he speaks of 'genuine writings of Paul underlying the Pastoral Epistles,' he says those epistles in their present form date from 90 to 110, and received additions still later? Are they willing to accept the dates assigned to the Epistle of James (120–140) and to the Second Epistle of Peter (160–175)? If Harnack is to be set up as a champion of tradition and orthodoxy by admiring friends on this side the Atlantic, one would wish to ask him a few simple questions to make sure he would not speak out in meeting at the wrong time and spoil everything."

Speaking in an editorial note of the admitted conclusions of Harnack's work, *The Churchman* (New York) says:

"It may not display a scientific temper of mind, but it is a splendid tribute to Harnack's accuracy of methods, that on all sides men accept the general conclusion arrived at in his latest work before having examined his reasoning. Of course many of those interested have held this same conclusion under the authority of tradition without regard for what criticism might say, but now, without a detailed knowledge of his argument, they feel assured that it is the conclusion of criticism, simply because Harnack says so. The preface of a book is naturally its key. And before the volume itself is accessible to English readers the notable conclusion registered in the much-quoted preface to Harnack's work on the chronology of early Christian literature informs the theological world of his ripest thought and indicates the contents of his book. Epoch-making achievements are rare, but Sanday would seem to be speaking sober truth in ascribing to his brilliant German contemporary the distinction of opening a new era in New-Testament study."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

ACCORDING to reports from England there is a large number of desertions from the Salvation Army, attributed chiefly to the autocratic power of General Booth and his family.

THE *Law Journal* of St. Petersburg publishes a statement to the effect that the Imperial Commission on the organization of the judicial system is now considering the advisability of abolishing all religious disabilities so far as Jews are concerned.

THE colony of Waldenses in North Carolina is prospering so well that it is attracting others of the same faith. There are already 400 busily engaged in farming in the extensive domain which they originally purchased, and it is said that 1,000 more will come from their old Alpine homes this summer.

A RATHER singular comment on 1 Sam. vi. 4 is offered by *The Christian World*, taken from the bubonic plague at present rampant in India. We are told that when the Philistines sent back the ark to Israel they sent with it as a guilt offering for Jehovah "five golden tumors (R. V., the authorized has "emerods,") and five golden mice."

THE native newspapers of India sneer at the utterances of the Chicago representatives of Hinduism as utterly untrue pictures of Hinduism as it exists Indeed, *The Hindu Nation*, an orthodox leading newspaper, says: "The pure and undefiled Hinduism which Swami Vivikananda preached has no existence to-day; has had no existence for centuries."

THE Fountain Street Baptist Church, the largest and wealthiest in Grand Rapids, Mich., has decided to erect a bicycle stable at one side of the church entrance, with accommodations for 150 wheels. A boy will be employed Sunday mornings and evenings to watch over the wheels placed there for safe-keeping while the riders are attending service. Riders will be encouraged to attend church, and the safety-deposit shed will be a factor in the encouragement.

The Independent says that the condition of the Dukhobortsi, a Russian sect, who have been exiled to different parts of the Caucasus, is reported as deplorable in the extreme. Their home in Russia has been on the higher tablelands. Transferred to the warm, damp climate of the Caucasus plains, they have suffered terribly and contracted fevers, which have left many of them blind. Even those who condemn their tenets are constrained to pity their condition and admit the injustice of the decree of banishment.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. HARPER, of the University of Chicago, thinks that teachers of Sunday-schools stand in as much need of training as other teachers, and that much of the present incompetent teaching does positive harm. Having been chosen superintendent of the Hyde Park Baptist Church School, he will try to put his ideas into practise. His scheme includes an experimental school and a normal course, the latter to comprise a study of methods of teaching and to be tested in the experimental school.

THE new Chinese Minister at Washington is a Christian man, a member of the Church of England. His suite nearly all speak English, and one of them, who it is expected will be consul-general, belongs to a well-known Christian family in Hongkong. A letter in *The Christian Advocate* says that Minister Wu Ling Fan was educated in London, and called to the English bar in 1877. Viceroy Li Hung Chang became impressed with his ability and selected him as his legal adviser. He was afterwards made director of Chinese railroads, and was connected with the negotiations for peace with Japan.

SEVERAL correspondents have called attention to a mistake which was evidently made in a note in this column in THE DIGEST of May 22, in which it was stated that within the area of the Greater New York there were 34 Lutheran churches, with 15,994 communicants. These figures refer to the churches in Lesser New York (boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx). In the Greater New York there are 86 Lutheran churches, with 35,833 communicants. These corrected figures would bear out the statement that the Greater New York is the largest Lutheran city in the world. Milwaukee would probably come next, with 34 churches and over 30,000 communicants.

The Hebrew Standard, commenting on the discredit recently falling upon a "converted Jew" conducting a Presbyterian mission in this city, says sweepingly:

"To our view, there has never been nor will there ever be, a sincere conversion from Judaism to Christianity. Some motive other than conviction, tho not apparent to human eyes, has been the impelling cause in every case of apostasy. As it is physically impossible for water to run up a hill, so it is intellectually impossible for a Jew to believe in dogmatic Christianity; for as the one would be a violation of nature, so would the other be a crime against reason."

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

THE SUFFERING IN INDIA.

WE give below some extracts from reports of Russian and Indian witnesses regarding the conditions of affairs at present in the famine-stricken sections. Prince Karageorgevich relates in the *Figaro*, Paris, the following:

"Let me describe such a 'poor-house.' It is an open enclosure, peopled by about 1,200 skeletons, nearly all perfectly naked. Their bones protrude through the skin, causing frightful wounds. Those still able to work earn from one to two cents per day, but hardly a quarter of them can do that. The sole allowance of food given them consists of a wheat cake the size of a dessert-plate once in twenty-four hours. . . . Many are unable to move. Near them lies a dusty something—their entrails, gone from them in consequence of the dysentery which accompanies starvation. . . . Does a doctor visit here? Sometimes. Are medicaments provided? Sometimes. Do officials come here? Sometimes. The day, the week, is never known. . . . The Christian missions alone show genuine zeal in alleviating this suffering."

Miss Hanna Riehm, a German missionary, publishes a report from Pundita Ramabai in the *Reichsbote*, Berlin. She declares emphatically that nothing has been exaggerated. We select the following:

"In many of the open enclosures called 'poor-houses' flour and salt only are furnished. The flour has been mixed with earth. The stronger rob the weaker of their rations; those who are too young or too weak to knead the flour endeavor to eat it raw. All fellow feeling is lost. Parents tear the food from their starving children. In some places a small quantity of porridge is given, made of wheat and peas. But there is not enough money to attend to all, fifty cents a month being about the highest sum expended per head. The English officials do what they can, but they are few in number, and must leave much to the native police, who rob the people and sell the handsomest of the women to keepers of houses of ill-fame. When the effect of bad food has begun to show itself by horrible sores in the mouth of the victim, recovery is almost impossible."

A question frequently asked is: What became of the $100,000,000 drawn from the people of India during the last twenty years as a famine fund? Indian witnesses, examined before the royal commission appointed to inquire into the expenditures of India, give some curious answers. We quote some questions and answers as follows:

LORD WELBY—"Has not the British Government acted according to the best of their knowledge and experience, and done what is necessary for the maintenance of peace and good government in India?"

PROFESSOR GOKHALE—"But matters which involve large expenditure are done without the control of the Indian taxpayer. The expenditure is centred in the Viceroy, and there is no check upon him. Millions and millions of money have been spent on objects which have not advanced the welfare of the Indian people, and even the sense of glory is not afforded to us as a consolation."

MR. COURTNEY—"Has any voice been raised against the frontier wars?"

PROFESSOR GOKHALE—"Yes, but there is no hope of anything being done, as the people of India are not represented in the councils of the nation."

LORD WELBY—"Would you have gone without railways, which are generally supposed to benefit a people by opening up markets?"

PROFESSOR GOKHALE—"I do not say that railways are not an improvement, but they are being forced upon us too rapidly, and money which ought to go in education and improving the condition of the people is being spent in the interests of the commercial and moneyed classes."

MR. NAOROJI—"We Indians are mere hewers of wood and drawers of water for foreign capitalists who take the profits of our labor out of the country?"

"Yes. It is like a person coming to your house and taking things away without paying for them."

LORD WELBY—"But the foreigner buys them?"

"They say they buy them."

"Are you prepared to prove that the capacity of the country is growing less?"

"The present famine and the suffering that it is causing is good evidence on the point."

The chairman, Lord Welby, during the inquiry suggested that the Indians "were resolved not to see how well they fared under British rule," but the native witnesses doggedly referred to the famine as "proof of the pudding." The session from which we have quoted took place April 14. The committee adjourned until the middle of May.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

ALTHO an armistice has brought about a cessation of hostilities, it will probably be some time before peace is concluded between Turkey and Greece. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, which has always defended the Sultan, says he is really a very peace-loving prince, but even he can not let the Greeks have their own way. His people would not stand it. Turkey will probably be satisfied with very little territorial advantage, but she will not evacuate Thessaly until the war indemnity is paid. There are some rumors that Russia and England will come to blows over this intention of the Turk to insure the payment of the debt. At any rate, Greece still hopes to secure advantages by threatening Europe with complications. The Paris *Revue des Revues*, known to be closely connected with the Ethnike Hetaira, publishes a threatening manifesto from this secret society, in which it is announced that the Greeks are ready to begin a guerilla warfare throughout the Balkan peninsula if Greece is asked to give up an inch of territory. In Greece also many papers maintain a bold front. The *Kairi*, Athens, attacks Premier Ralli because he is willing to conclude peace. "The least the Government can do," says the paper, "is to use the armistice for the organization of defense. If the peace negotiations lead to undesirable results, we should be able to continue the struggle under more favorable circumstances." The *Asty*, *Acropolis*, and *Scrip* nevertheless recognize that Greece is placed in a favorable position, "as she has agreed to an armistice with Europe, rather than with Turkey." Meanwhile Europe recognizes that her task is not an easy one. The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"It is very natural that the victorious Turk should be less inclined to lay down his weapons than the vanquished Greek. The intervention of the powers threaten to rob the Sultan of all advantages obtained during the struggle. The Porte believes it necessary to make heavier demands than Greece expected, if only to convey a lesson to the other Balkan states. Yet the Sultan will, in the end, modify his claims considerably, if only the powers remain firm. Turkey will not risk war with united Europe."

Similar views are expressed in the French papers. The *Temps*, Paris, says:

"It is plain that the victories in Thessaly have caused the Turks to forget their misdeeds in Anatolia. The spirits of the slain appear less distinct to the Moslem slayer, and he begins to dream of the possibility of once more extending his empire. It is a pity that this should be so, but it is a consequence of the war which had to be expected. When the powers permitted this war, they also gave to the empire which became victorious a chance to regain its self-confidence. The powers should have remembered this before they declared—as Lord Salisbury does—that the concert has not suffered a check, as it has succeeded in localizing the war."

The *Journal des Débats* does not think that the Sultan will be so imprudent as to ignore altogether the mandate of the powers.

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That the Sultan will not settle the Cretan question with Greece is very likely, as this matter concerns Turkey and the great powers. Concerning the peace negotiations our contemporary says:

"Bargaining is much the fashion in the East. It is very rare that an agreement is arrived at immediately. Generally one party demands a great deal more than it is willing, in the end, to accept, and the other offers much less than it is willing to give. It is the custom of the bazars. There is, however, reasonable hope that the Ottoman statesmen will continue to exhibit as much political wisdom as they have shown during the past three months. Whether Greece engages, on paper, to pay a few millions more or less, whether a few more miles of frontier are granted, is not a matter of absorbing importance to Turkey, who can not be robbed of the best results of the war. She has proved that she has lost none of her military strength. She has demonstrated not only to her own people and to the small states which surround her, but also to the great powers, that she is strong enough to defend herself against much graver perils than a war with Greece."

This, indeed, is the opinion of the Turks themselves. The *Ikdam*, Constantinople, says:

"During the last twenty years the imperial army has made considerable progress. It is in fact in a position to prove that it is able to measure swords with the best organized forces of the world. This fact must have considerable influence upon the development of the policy of the Ottoman Empire. The rapid successes of our army have fortified the moral and material position of Turkey to such an extent that we can afford to regard the future with the greatest confidence."

Nor is this utterance on the part of a Turkish paper purely official. H. Vambery, the intrepid Hungarian traveler, warns the world that the Mohammedan press has much greater influence than the papers of Western countries; he believes that this press has materially strengthened the bond between all the followers of the Prophet in every part of the world. He says in the German part of *Cosmopolis*:

"I would like to point out to the hot-headed crusader of the nineteenth century the importance of this press. In Turkey, in Java, in Egypt, in Central Asia, in Algiers, the native newspapers and magazines begin to exercise a strong influence. Everything that Europe plans against Islam is revealed quickly in China, on the equator, and at the Cape of Good Hope, and is commented upon. What we say at our meetings and during our dinners is fanning a dangerous flame. What the *Terdschüman* expresses in veiled sentences in the Crimea is repeated more clearly by the *Ikdam* and the *Hakikat* in Constantinople, and is commented upon in a still more pointed manner by *The Moslem Chronicle* in Calcutta. As yet Panislamism is held together by thin threads only; but the danger of an open attack upon the Califa, whom the entire Moslem world recognizes and honors as its spiritual head, may easily cause a world-wide struggle."

No such danger is recognized by the Opposition in England. *The Daily Chronicle* insists that England must build up Greece and work for the day when Turkey will no longer be on the map. *The Manchester Guardian* thinks Greece would be morally justified in keeping up a guerilla warfare if she were asked to give up territory. *The Westminster Gazette* suggests that Lord Salisbury, with the British fleet to back him, should save Greece from humiliation. *The Spectator* says:

"If Lord Salisbury is as influential in the councils of the concert as we are told that he is, and as with such a fleet behind him he ought to be, he will be able to insist that Turkey, like Russia in 1878, shall resign her prey, that the Greek fleet shall not be given up, that no inch of Thessalian soil shall be restored to Turkey, that Crete shall be made really and not nominally autonomous, and that Turkey shall obtain nothing, except, perhaps, a sum of two millions sterling, to be distributed among her troops, lest they should allege that their blood has purchased nothing. . . . If Lord Salisbury can secure this, he will have partly justified his policy, and at least have proved that Great Britain has not become, under his guidance, a negligeable quantity in the European system. . . . If England dare not single-handed punish Turkey, at least it is not for her to aid in aggrandizing the Sultan."

The Conservatives, however, are little inclined to acknowledge that Lord Salisbury has been unjust. *The Home News*, London, says:

"The effrontery of Greece is amazing. Her pretensions alone caused the war, and she must take the consequences. It may not be a comfortable thought in these last years of the nineteenth century of Christianity that the Crescent is once more in the ascendent in Southeastern Europe, but those who, for lack of a more distinctive title, are called Christians, are responsible for that. Greece behaved badly before the war and has behaved contemptibly during the war, and even her own friends admit that the conduct of the Turk has been as irreproachable as his courage has been undaunted. Concerning the admirable behavior of the Turkish troops the British admiral in Cretan waters bears testimony not less remarkable and convincing than that which has been sent from the seat of war by correspondents of all shades of opinion."

The *Nieuws van den Dag*, Amsterdam, says:

"The Cretans show some sense. Officials appointed by Colonel Vassos have resigned, and the representatives of the powers are put in their place, while the insurgents have appointed a temporary administration. This is much better than ex-Premier Delyannis's grandiose theory that Greece will 'never' consent to give up Crete. Haven't we heard this 'never' before? It is, we think, just twenty-six years since peace was concluded between France and Germany. Greece has much the advantage over France; she has mediators; let her take advantage of that fact. Greece will always be able to boast that the independence of Crete is her work."

As a matter of curiosity some papers relate that ex-Empress Eugenie of France will go to Constantinople to influence the Sultan. She wants a Bonaparte as governor of Crete.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A Word in Defense of the American Navy.—A German engineer raises his voice in the *Echo*, Berlin, against the practise of German papers that accept sensational reports of the American press regarding the United States service. He is specially disgusted with the story that the United States steamer *Indiana* is not seaworthy, and says:

"The *Indiana* is a heavy armorclad—10,280 tons burden—with moving towers forward and aft, similar to the *Friedrich der Grosse*, each tower containing two 13-inch guns. Your report gives the impression that the *Indiana* is a battery ship. Officials to whom I showed the article knew nothing of grave mistakes committed in building the vessel. The only thing known is that the towers slightly loosened when the ship rolled in a heavy sea. This is the reason that the *Indiana* put back. The recoil of the guns is perfect. The men in the tower hardly hear a report when the ship is cleared for action. That an anchor got loose is nothing unusual.

"The modern ships of the United States navy are very solidly built, designed according to the best rules of the art of shipbuilding, very elegant and very comfortable. They are, perhaps, the best in the world. The German Emperor himself praised their construction during the opening of the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal.

"When I was with a German squadron in the North Sea some of the heavy guns had to be changed, as they showed defects, and once we had to be towed into port because the machinery broke down. There is hardly a vessel afloat that does not at first show some faults. But it is hardly right to speak of total uselessness in such a case. Depend upon it, the Americans give a good account of themselves as regards engineering. Last fall I was on the *Oregon*, the sister ship of the *Indiana*. About a hundred engineers of all countries agreed that she is a splendidly constructed vessel. Yet the *Oregon*, too, rolled too much at first, an evil which is now being remedied by the addition of bilge keels."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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THE DELAGOA BAY QUESTION.

EARLY in April a powerful British squadron appeared in Delagoa Bay off the coast of East Africa. Its admiral did not reveal that he was on a political mission, and the Portuguese authorities will remember nothing more unpleasant in connection with this visit than some good dinners on the quarter-deck of a British man-of-war. Yet the press of the whole world regarded this appearance of the St. George's Cross in Delagoa Bay as a hint that England intended to possess herself of the only neutral port through which the Boer republics of South Africa have access to the sea. *The Globe*, London, expressed itself to the following effect:

We may expect at any moment a decision of the Swiss arbitration tribunal regarding the Delagoa railroad. It is already known to us that this decision will be unfavorable to Portugal, who will have to pay a large indemnity to British subjects. Portugal has no money. But England is Portugal's traditional friend. England will accept part of the colony of Mozambique, including Delagoa Bay, in lieu of money. England will even accept a thirty-years' lease of Portugal's sovereign rights in Delagoa Bay.

It is very probable that England will obtain control over the bay and the town of Lourenço Marques under the Portuguese flag, and that the colony will be administered as Egypt is administered, under recognition of the territorial rights of Portugal. It is easy to see that this would destroy, once for all, all the intrigues carried on between the Transvaal and Germany, and that England's position in South Africa would be strengthened immensely.

It was thought at the time that the impending struggle between Greece and Turkey would engage the attention of the continental powers to such an extent that England could possess herself of Delagoa Bay without hindrance. The march of events did not justify this prediction. The official press in Germany and France declared in the most pointed language that England can not be permitted to possess the only good port on the east coast. Moreover, public opinion in Portugal opposed the transfer of the bay to England. The *Tarde*, Lisbon, feared that the Radical element in Portugal, which claims that Portugal is exploited relentlessly for the benefit of British capitalists, would demonstrate against the monarchy. *The Westminster Gazette*, London, acknowledged this, saying:

"Nobody acquainted with Lisbon and Portuguese politics in general believes that the Portuguese Government would part with Delagoa Bay. And for a simple enough reason. If King Charles and his Government were to sell Lourenço Marques, the King and his spouse may buy their tickets for Paris at once.

"We all know how near Portugal was to becoming a republic in the days of the Nyassa Land incident. The Portuguese of to-day are no colonial administrators, and their African Empire is falling to pieces as Turkey is breaking up in Europe. But their pride remains, and they will not sell out."

That Germany will interfere single-handed, is not believed. *The St. James's Gazette* is certain that Germany, which could not afford to send a battalion of troops to Crete, will hardly be wild enough to challenge England to a duel. It then continues:

"But there are strange influences at work upon the Berlin Foreign Office. The German papers—if German papers count for anything—have been talking as if it were possible for Germany to get a foothold upon Delagoa Bay, and as if a European league might be formed to prevent Great Britain making what arrangements she pleases with Portugal and with the other states in that region. . . . Cooler heads would convince the Kaiser that the German fleet is not quite in a condition to land an army corps at Lourenço Marques, even if the German general staff could supply thirty thousand men for extra-European service. But it is in all respects desirable that this conviction should be brought home to the rulers of Germany without any superfluously harsh lessons. And with that object it is wise to have a fairly powerful fleet assembled in Delagoa Bay."

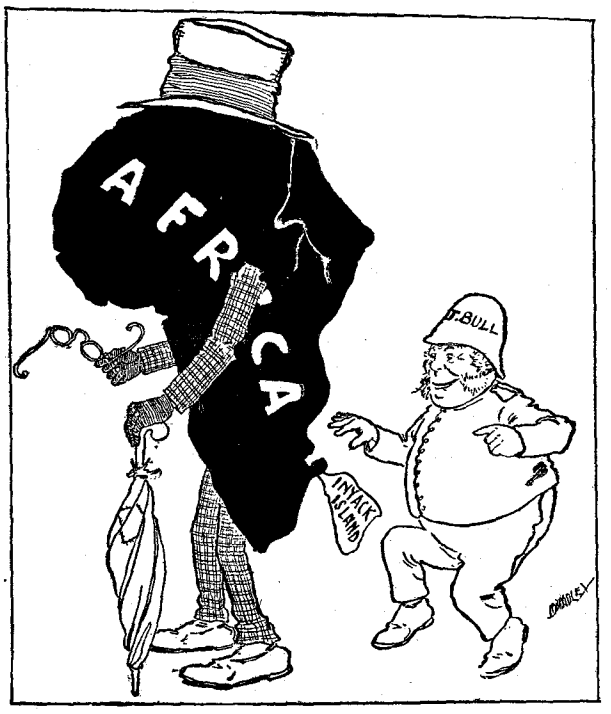
The German papers acknowledge that the English are not far wrong in saying that Germany has no fleet, and can not, therefore, meet England single-handed in a colonial war. But Delagoa Bay is a port in which other nations have an interest. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:

"Delagoa Bay is really an international port. It is the only good port on the east coast of Africa, and neither France nor Germany could allow their competitor England to take the place. Madagascar and the German East African colonies would in that case be at the mercy of a British fleet. Hence Germany has established a strong financial position in Delagoa Bay. Germany owns the greater part of the Lourenço Marques railroad shares. This, according to British maxims, should give her paramount influence."

The *National Zeitung* intimates that Portugal knows very well she need not apply to England if she is a "little short of cash." The paper says:

"It is very probable that Portugal will get money from other countries, and on far less burdensome terms than from England. The Portuguese will never consent to a 'lease.' Their national pride would accept such humiliating conditions less quietly than an open sale of the colony of Mozambique. It is true that the recent verdict of an Italian senator as arbitrator on the Anglo-Portuguese boundary line in South Africa was partly unfavorable to Portugal. But this verdict allots to England only the right of preemption to a small part of Mozambique, of which part the northern frontier is six miles south of Delagoa Bay, so that Portugal's right over the most important ports of the coasts remains intact. Even this decision can not be regarded as a precedent for the future of Delagoa Bay."

The *Temps*, Paris, declares that Germany is determined to open the Egyptian question if England attacks the Transvaal or obtains a foothold in Delagoa Bay, and that Emperor William II. is doing his best to obtain the cooperation of France, Russia, and Turkey. The *Express*, Bloemfontein, whose editor can not be convinced that England could be in earnest when it comes to a question of war, asserts that the British fleet in Delagoa Bay, as elsewhere, "demonstrates when nobody is around."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



PICKING POCKETS AGAIN.
—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

THE latest news from Brazil is that Antonio Conselheiro, the leader of the insurgents, proposes to restore the monarchy in the State of Bahia. As he has defeated the Government troops, and is reputed to have at least 10,000 men under his command, the Government has now sent 15,000 men against him.

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ENGLISH TRIBUTES TO GENERAL GRANT.

NOWHERE in Europe has the inauguration of the national monument to General Grant been commented upon with such interest as in England. Englishmen are most keenly alive to the importance of the work Grant did in preserving the Union, and recognize him universally as a man of distinction and ability as well as an able soldier.

The Speaker, London, says:

"No one will claim for Grant the Englishman's [Duke of Wellington's] celebrity in war. No one will place him as a soldier—in brilliancy and dash, in resource and inspiration—above his great opponent Lee, or his great subordinate Sheridan. . . . It was his steady perseverance, his fidelity to duty, his strict attention to discipline, his patient endurance of difficulties, his cool, far-sighted plans, his quiet but determined resolution, which gave him the great success he won. . . . Americans now remember of him only, as we remember only of the Duke, that he was the greatest of a great race of men; that in character and conduct he always showed himself, under whatever circumstances, straightforward, brave, and true; and that in one of the most solemn crises of their history he rendered transcendent service to the state."

The Pall Mall Gazette hopes that Grant's preference for arbitration may have some importance in the remote, if not the near, future. *The St. James's Gazette* can not admit that Grant was one of the world's great men, but adds that he "was the right man for the work he took in hand, and that he handled his weapons in the right way; and, after all, that is what constitutes success." *The Daily Chronicle* thinks his memory would have stood out more grandly to-day had he never accepted a second term as President. *The Standard* acknowledges Grant to have been "a man of more than average judgment." *The Morning Advertiser* says:

"Grant has gained in the temple of fame a niche from which nothing can dislodge him, for he undoubtedly saved the United States at the most critical moment of their career as a nation. Had the Secessionists won, America would not be the great and prosperous country which it is to-day, and the cause of freedom and humanity would have been wasted. It can not be said of many wars that they have left so little sting behind them as the contest between North and South has done."

The Post says:

"In the later period of the Civil War he became the master spirit of Federal policy, dominating the councils of the Cabinet at Washington much as Wellington did those of the English Ministry during the Peninsular campaigns. The persistence with which he adhered to his plans amidst all the discouragement which attended the fortunes of the Republic saved President Lincoln from the difficulties attending a multitude of counselors. Now that the Republican Party are again in office, the inauguration of the national monument which the gratitude of the people has erected to General Grant's memory is seized on as an opportunity for recalling the best traditions of the party whose boast it is that they extinguished slavery."

The Daily Telegraph hopes "the remembrance of Grant's simple virtues may have a beneficial effect upon the people of America." *The Daily News* calls him the "model hero of the American type," and adds:

"He sprang from the people—he was the son of a plain farmer, and had 'driven team' in his day. Yet he was also a trained soldier. But, from first to last, he was merely the citizen in arms, and with the mighty array he commanded, he resumed his position in civil life as soon as his work was done. As American society grows more complex by a sharp differentiation into professions and pursuits, men of this stamp will necessarily become more rare. The soldier will be the soldier 'from start to finish,' and his sympathies will be with his order, and perhaps with his caste. The giants of the Civil War were probably the last of a great race."

Why Englishmen Resist Socialism.—Liebknecht, the celebrated leader of the German Socialists, is very much dissatisfied with the progress of Socialism in England. In his opinion the English people show much less tendency to begin the great revolution than their condition justifies. The wisdom of the authorities, is, however, responsible for this. He writes in the *Neue Zeit*, Berlin, to the following effect:

The common people are poorer and live worse in England than in Germany, and there are more Socialist bacilli in the former country than in the latter. Yet the bacilli do not increase fast enough. This is easy to explain. The English police do not assist in breeding them. In England you may hold meetings as much as you like, keep on speechifying until the speaker and the hearers fall in a fainting fit, rail at the Queen to your heart's content, and call the ministers of state all the bad names under the sun, without police interference. You may utter as many insulting remarks as you please about the royal family, and you will not be arrested for doing so. All this prevents Socialism from gaining strength. An *Umsturz* Party can not thrive under such conditions.

In Germany the police take care that the conditions necessary for the development of revolutionary parties are always present. While the English workingmen may say what they like when they meet where they like, the German workingmen may not do these things without the permission of the police. A meeting can not be held without a permit. The police send their representatives, listen to everything that is said, prosecute speakers who are wanting in circumspection, and often close a meeting in the most arbitrary manner.

The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, remarks that this explanation is anything but flattering to the Socialists. It proves that the Social-Democratic Party does not seek to gather strength from its own program, but from the mistakes of its opponents The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, draws still stronger conclusions. It asserts that Liebknecht's explanation proves Socialism to be altogether incompatible with freedom of speech. The *Nord-Ost See Zeitung* thinks the German Socialists are aware that English freedom of speech would produce different results in Germany. Germans would not be content with mere talk. They would consider themselves in honor bound to make good their words, however hastily uttered.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

WHEN Frithjof Nansen passed the day with Emperor William the Emperor introduced his children to his guest in a peculiarly characteristic manner. After dinner the young princes were called. They filed in, and stood "to attention" in military style. "Shake hands with this gentleman," said the Emperor. "Look well at him. Some day you will be able to understand what his work is, and then you will be glad to be able to say you have met him."

SOME altogether erroneous statements regarding the Basutos, the native tribe which is at present at enmity with the Orange Free State, have been copied by many papers from a recent magazine article. Basutoland is pratically independent, all efforts on the part of England to conquer this "Switzerland of South Africa" having failed. Britain's suzerainty is purely nominal, which may be gathered from the fact that the British Government has for years been unable to protect the Free State border from Basuto raids. The Orange Free State, after a prolonged struggle, once brought the Basutos to their knees, but as England did not consider it expedient to allow territorial expansion of the Boer Republic a nominal protectorate was established, which the Basutos accepted to escape Free State rule.

THE curious mixture of law and liberty which seems to agree with the majority of Germans is well illustrated by the following: "The law provides that all children must receive religious instruction according to the tenets of some sect recognized by the state. A locksmith in Braunschweig was fined $2.25 for infringement of this regulation. He appealed, stating that his ten-year-old boy receives two lessons a week from the "speaker" (minister) of the Community of Freethinkers, who are duly registered as a "religious" society. The Orthodox Consistory contended that the speaker, Dr. Völkel, could not qualify, as he had been punished for immoderate attacks upon the Holy Trinity and the cult of Mary. The county court, however, declares that this could not deprive Dr. Völkel of his right to teach, as an attack upon other religions, tho illegal, must be classed as a second-rate misdemeanor, such attacks being due in many cases to the enthusiastic personal convictions of an honorable man.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

LEO TAXIL AND HIS "GREATEST JOKE OF ALL TIMES."

LEO TAXIL, the greatest joker of all times, as he calls himself, and Miss Diana Vaughan, the American typewriter, who assisted him by posing as the bride of a member of "Hell's Four Hundred," and wrote at his dictation remarkable stories about piano-playing alligators, are still discussed in the European press. The Catholic press is anxious to explain that the church was not misled to such an extent as the genial inventor of "Palladism" pretends. The Freemasons are wroth that their name should have been taken in vain. The International Anti-Freemasonic Congress, which met at Trent last summer, and proposed to organize national leagues to make war against Freemasonry, and which based its agitation chiefly upon Taxil's inventions, seems to have ceased its agitation altogether. The *Germania*, Berlin, the most important organ of the German Catholics, says:

"The enemies of the Catholic Church would be justified in railing at the gullibility and want of education of the Catholics if they had themselves exposed this swindle. That honor belongs, however, to the Catholic papers in Germany and to a Jesuit. Ninety-nine per cent. of the German Catholics knew little or nothing of the whole business. It should be remembered that Leo Taxil's work on Freemasonry, after all, contains much that is true. Gradually, however, Father Gruber and the Catholic press began to 'smell a rat,' and, in spite of all opposition, they exposed Leo Taxil.

"It is easy to imagine that Leo Taxil will now be anxious to give the widest possible publicity to his success, and will exhibit the proofs of Catholic credulity by publishing his Diana Vaughan correspondence. Good comes, however, out of evil. Far too much of the so-called 'supernatural' is offered the Catholic reading public in Catholic publications. We do not object to the publication of miraculous influences that have been duly attested by the church, after investigation. But there is too ready a belief in supposed evidences of divine or diabolic interference in cases which have not been pronounced genuine by the clerical authorities. The battle against Freemasonry certainly must not be allowed to lapse through this incident."

The *Kölnische Volks-Zeitung*, Cologne, another Catholic paper, says:

"For all our deep disgust at Leo Taxil and his helpers we can not deny that they have, unintentionally of course, done some good. They have demonstrated *ad oculas* what unrestricted credulity leads to. An end should be put to all the numerous stories which fantastic souls, addleheads, fake converts, and conscienceless liars continually offer the public in the shape of revelations, secrets, and predictions. We have given warning before this against this inundation of superstition. Even the blind can see the harm done now. It is a bitter lesson, but it will be a good one, if we draw the right conclusions from it."

The Liberal papers think the Catholics say too much about this matter. It would be better for the church if its friends would lie low until the storm blows over.

The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"Leo Taxil's object evidently was to fool the Jesuits, and, indeed, the Catholic Church in general. He certainly has had all the fun he wanted. The joke of his own conversion was not enough, hence he invented the spook stories regarding Diana Vaughan, which he calls the greatest joke the world has ever known. Rome believed everything. A grotesque air, known as the Song of the Philharmonic Siren,' was described as 'Diana Vaughan's Hymn to the Maid of Orleans,' and was accepted by the choir in many churches. The Italian clergy also had the happy inspiration to make use of Miss Vaughan in promulgating the legend that the heart of Jeanne d'Arc, which, it is said, was not burnt with the rest of her body, is somewhere in Italy.

"The *Germania* now tries to make people believe that the Liberal press was fooled as much as the Catholics, and that the Jesuits exposed the swindle. The *Germania* forgets that the Jesuit Gruber, who began to oppose Leo Taxil six months ago, has translated Taxil's book on Palladism, and furnished commentaries to it. The same *Germania* eighteen months ago related that the Jesuits in Rome held a three-days' service to commemorate Diana Vaughan's conversion, and that the Catholic papers dilated upon the subject.

"The main question, however, is: How was it possible for such arrant nonsense to find believers? Simply because the unanimous teaching of Catholic divines is that such fantastic things are possible, and that it is necessary to believe in their possibility. The *doctores ecclesiæ* teach this doctrine, and no Catholic may oppose their teachings unless he wishes to be regarded as a heretic."

The *Figaro*, Paris, says:

"What a peculiar tendency is this, by which certain people are driven to do their best to prove that every one who does not agree with them is influenced by the devil. If the Catholics and the Freemasons both would try to understand that religious toleration is the most powerful argument in seeking to make converts, both would gain much advantage. Nothing is so strong an ally of truth as the influence of freedom."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

BAMBOO AS A BUILDING MATERIAL.

THE following note on the use of bamboo is of especial interest, as it has just been announced in the daily press that this greatest of all the grass family is found to flourish in parts of California. It must be remembered that besides the use of the bamboo for building, which is the only one touched upon in this note, it has very great value in quite different directions; for instance, the seeds are used as a grain, and are said to be quite as good as rice. We take the note from *La Nature* (Paris, May 1), the writer of which signs himself "P. de M.":

"We have often had occasion to speak of the manifold uses to which bamboo can be put, not only in the life of the natives of those countries where this precious plant grows, but in a more general manner. Recently we have heard of its use for the protection of the banks of rivers, in place of the classic fascines; besides, the Japanese have made great use of it to replace cellulose for the protection of ships of war. But one of our consuls in the Dutch East Indies insists that the bamboo can be used to advantage in building, especially in the construction of scaffoldings.

"The curious scaffolding of this kind recently built for the construction of a lighthouse in Japan will be remembered. The fact is that even in France this wood ought to be greatly in demand for this purpose. It has qualities that most people do not suspect; it forms ready-made poles of great length and wonderful lightness, which in spite of their slenderness are considerably stronger than those of any other kind of wood.

"In Java, porters carry burdens of the greatest weight by means of bamboos held by three or four men. Two of these, only 4 centimeters [1.7 inches] in diameter, placed side by side, will support without sagging in any way a grand piano slung between them by ropes.

"It may be understood by this how great is the strength of a bamboo 20 to 25 centimeters [8 to 10 inches] in diameter, even when it is 20 meters [65 feet] long. M. Barré-Pousignon has cited the example of a derrick 8 meters [26 feet] high, made of bamboos 10 centimeters [4 inches] in diameter, that he saw raise two iron girders weighing together 1,100 kilograms [2,424 pounds].

"It should be added that bamboo decays neither in earth nor in water, and that the more it dries and grows old the more solid it becomes. It may be understood from this how valuable it is for scaffoldings, when the wood remains exposed to all weathers and often remains in place a very long time. As regards the price, it is extremely small, varying between 20 centimes [4 cents] and one franc [20 cents] according to the size, kind, and length."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Trade reports are not very encouraging. The tone of *Bradstreet's* for the week is less hopeful than that of *Dun's Review*. Stock speculation is dull. Gold exports continue, presumably on Austrian and Russian account and for tourists' credit. Business failures according to *Bradstreet's* number 257 to 245 the previous week, 227 in 1896, 183 in 1895 and 1894, 214 in 1893. *Dun's Review* gives 214, the smallest in any week since September 1895, against 239 last year.

Disappointing Spring Trade.—"Results of the spring trade in staples, which is now over, are disappointing. The volume of seasonable merchandise distributed is less than expected, without taking into account an improvement in business compared with a year ago. Nearly all Central-Western and Southern trade centers report business very quiet. Dry-goods continue depressed, cotton products selling with difficulty, some varieties only on concessions. The announcement of reduced or passed cotton-mill dividends, and that several large establishments will shut down to enable consumption to overtake production, when coupled with the comparative indifference of consumers to the lowest prices on record for iron and steel, would appear to sufficiently characterize the actual condition of general trade.

"The more favorable features are relative activity among woolen goods manufacturers, who are working on old orders; improved demand for shoes and leather; a continuance of the comparative activity in the general demand at Savannah, Memphis, St. Louis, Omaha, Sioux Falls, Minneapolis, and St. Paul; the better demand for lumber at the West; and in the trade outlook in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas. Increased exports are reported from Pacific coast ports, but there is comparatively little gain in domestic trade there, except in cattle, wool, and hardware at Portland. Grain and fruit prospects in Washington are excellent.

"Among twenty of the more important staple products only two—hides and wheat—have advanced, while one-half the number—cotton, lumber, coal, Bessemer pig iron, steel billets, steel rails, print cloths, sugar, pork, and coffee—are unchanged, altho there is a nominal advance in the asking price for Bessemer pig and steel billets. Now that wool manufacturers have stocked up, wool is off, as are cotton goods when sold in quantity; rosin is lower, and among cereals flour, Indian corn, and oats, to which may be added lard and petroleum.

"The fact that the volume of general trade has not been expanding is nowhere better shown than by comparing weekly bank clearings at 78 cities throughout the country. The total for six business days ending with May 27, none of the details of which are estimated, and all of which are received by wire, is $918,000,000, a falling-off of 6 per cent. from the week before, and of about one-third of 1 per cent. from the total in the fourth week of May, 1896. As compared with the like week in 1895, this week's aggregate shows an increase of 12 per cent., and when contrasted with the corresponding exhibit for 1894, 29 per cent. But compared with the like total in 1893, the falling-off this week is 12 per cent., and even more as compared with the corresponding period in 1892."—*Bradstreet's, May 29.*

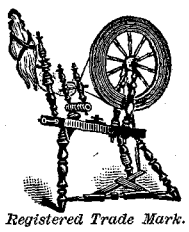
Comparisons Not Discouraging.—"People are actually doing more business than they realize. They reckon by values, but these are much lower than in any previous year of prosperity and leave little margin for profits. In quantity, there is almost as much business being done as in the years of greatest prosperity, and tho the increase in population would call for a material expansion, the comparison is not discouraging. The recovery is slow, hesitating, and gradual, but more has been done on the whole in May than in April, while returns in April showed the volume of business only 10 per cent. smaller than that of the best year heretofore. Yet hesitation is doing its work every week, and multitudes are waiting because of possibilities at Washington who ought to be swelling the demand for labor and the products of labor. Exports of $2,300,000 gold cause no alarm, as they are obviously the results of the premium paid by Russia, and it is well understood that goods imported in May, thus far 51 per cent. larger than last year, are supplying wants for months to come, while exports of products, in May thus far 27 per cent. larger than last year, will much increase within two months. The Treasury is doing well, and the money market has gained $2,000,000 from the interior during the week, and has no apprehension. The encouraging increase in the demand for commercial loans still continues in volume as large and in quality of paper offered even better than last week."—*Dun's Review, May 29.*

Wheat and Corn.—"Events have proved that the crop of wheat going out is much larger than any of the markets expected, and Western receipts for the week were 30 per cent. larger than last year, while Atlantic exports have been for four weeks 6,315,329 bushels, flour included, against 4,988,777 last year. At this season actual receipts count rather than predictions, and the truth is that the country has exported an extraordinary quantity of wheat and flour, and yet has so much to spare that the May option has declined nearly a cent for the week. Besides, the outgo of corn, largely taking the place of wheat in foreign consumption, is far beyond precedent or expectation, and for four weeks has been 9,360,091 against 6,001,986 last year. With liberal interior supplies, the price has declined a fraction."—*Dun's Review, May 29.*

Canadian Trade Unsettled.—"General trade at Toronto is unsettled by the new tariff and proposed alterations to it. Toronto dealers are shipping wool to the United States in anticipation of a heavy duty here. Business is not improved at Montreal, and wet and cold weather retard farm work in the province of Quebec. Business is retarded by unfavorable weather at Halifax also, and advices from St. John, N. B., are of a moderate volume of trade only. Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax amount to $16,800,000 this week, nearly 20 per cent. less than last week, but about 5 per cent. more than in the like week last year. There are 20 business failures reported from the Canadian Dominion this week, against 25 last week, 25 in the week a year ago, and 36 two years ago. [*Dun's Review:* 22 to 26 last year.]—*Bradstreet's, May 29.*

A POPULAR LINE.

The Popular Providence Line of steamers, between New York, Providence, Boston, Worcester, and all points North and East, has resumed its passenger service for the season. This is a very desirable route for travelers who have occasion to visit Providence, Boston, or other points. Passengers are assured a full night's rest with early arrival at destination. An excellent orchestra, first-class cuisine, careful and attentive employees, combine to make this line the favorite route for all lovers of comfortable travel. Steamers *Massachusetts* and *Rhode Island* leave New Pier 36, North River, at 5.30 P.M., connecting at Providence with express train leaving at 6.05 A.M., due at Boston at 7.15 A.M. Train for Worcester and all points North leaves at 6.35 A.M. During the summer season connections are made and through tickets sold to White Mountain points, Bar Harbor, and all the Eastern summer resorts. A delightful feature of this line is the sail through Narragansett Bay and Providence River in the early morning or evening.



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THE NEW YORK OBSERVER says: "Among the grateful patients we find the Rev. B. N. Palmer, D.D., of New Orleans, La., well known to our readers. Dr. Palmer, some two years ago, noticed his eyesight failing, and consulted Dr. Knapp, of New York, and Dr. Pope, of New Orleans, who diagnosed the case as atrophy. After being under treatment for one year they pronounced his case hopeless, and further treatment was abandoned. On July 24, 1896, one eye being nearly sightless and the other failing, he consulted E. H. Bemis, Eye Specialist, of the Glens Falls, N. Y., Sanitarium, remarking that he had 'nothing to lose and a great deal to gain,' as cataracts were forming which would make blindness sure, and the little sight left was only available with the aid of a strong magnifying glass. On September 7, six weeks after commencing the absorption treatment, the strong lens had been laid aside, and the glasses, discarded years ago, now enable him to read again, to the great surprise of himself and his friends."

Dr. PALMER says: "His theory is rational, based upon the self-restoring power of Nature herself. Medicine cures only by rousing a peccant organ to the performance of its duty, when disease is thrown off and the patient recovers. The eye, he thinks, should form no exception. His aim, therefore, is to stimulate the eye, promote its secretions and increase the circulation, thus REVITALIZING the eye and enabling it to fulfil its functions. IT THROWS OFF ALL THE TROUBLES AND REPAIRS ITS OWN WASTE. His method is simple, safe, and in no way unpleasant."

A. B. COLVIN, State Treasurer of New York and a resident of Glens Falls, writes: "The history of the Bemis Sanitarium and its advance by marvelous strides is due to Edward H. Bemis, Eye Specialist, whose marvelous success makes his name familiar to thousands all over the United States and in many foreign lands, and God speed him."

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Current Events.

Monday, May 24.

Both Houses of Congress adjourn as a mark of respect for the late Senator Earle. . . . Conferees agree on a modification of the forestry reserve order of February 22. . . . Republican Senators in caucus decide that tariff amendments be submitted to the finance committee; if there disapproved to Republican caucuses. . . . United States Supreme Court decisions; two cases, that the Interstate Commerce Commission has no power to prescribe railroad rates for future control; new trial of Robert M. Yardley, receiver of Keystone National Bank against the Philadelphia Clearing-House; adjourns to October. . . . The President remits sentence of dismissal from the army upon Captain Henry Romeyn, 5th infantry, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Spanish cabinet troubles are unallayed; Premier Canovas criticizes the absence and attitude of Liberals; concerning the possibility of a sale of Cuba, Canovas says: "Spain is not a nation of merchants, capable of selling its honor." . . . In Paris the members of the United States International Monetary Commission are presented to M. Hanotaux. . . . Queen Victoria's seventy-eighth birthday is celebrated. . . . The trial of Herr von Tausch, formerly commissioner of the secret political police, begins in Berlin.

Tuesday, May 25.

Mr. Aldrich opens the tariff debate in the Senate; the House is not in session. . . . The President names Edwin H. Conger minister to Brazil. . . . The trial of Henry O. Havemeyer for contempt of a sugar investigating committee begins in Washington. . . . The Presbyterian General Assembly disposes of the New York building question and decides to reorganize the Board of Home Missions. . . . The American Unitarian Association meets in Boston.

It is reported that Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg will be appointed Governor-General of Crete. . . . The Liberal members refuse to attend the session of the Spanish Chamber of Deputies. . . . Henry Labouchere withdraws charges against Dr. Rutherford Harris with an apology. . . . Important amendments to the Canadian tariff are announced by the Finance Minister at Ottawa.

Wednesday, May 26.

In the Senate (alone in session) the first vote on schedules of the tariff bill is taken and the finance committee sustained by 34 to 20. . . . Among Presidential nominations is Charles B. Hart, W. Va., minister to Colombia. . . . Commissioner Hermann, of the general land office, reverses the decision of his predecessor, Judge Lamoreaux, in the Chicago lake-front case. . . . A monument to Robert Ross is unveiled in Troy, N. Y. . . . The Bradford manuscript history of New-Plymouth Colony is delivered to the Commonwealth of Massachussetts by Mr. Bayard; an oration is delivered by Senator Hoar. . . . Commander Booth-Tucker is found guilty of maintaining a disorderly house at the Salvation Army headquarters, New York, neighbors having complained of the noise of the the meetings. . . . The general assembly of United Presbyterians opens at Rock Island, Ill.

Premier Canovas denies the existence of a cabinet crisis at Madrid; Señor Sagasta, the Spanish Liberal leader, is expected to announce his unalterable opposition to the sale of Cuba. . . . The Turkish Government mobilizes 50,000 additional troops for Thessaly, and is preparing to administer the province; England threatens to abandon the concert if Turkish occupation of Thessaly is prolonged. . . . The Queen's birthday is observed officially in London.

Thursday, May 27.

The Senate disposes of about ten pages of the tariff bill and agrees to the conference report on the sundry civil service bill, which suspends until March 1 the creation of new forest reserves. . . . In the House an unsuccessful attempt is made to secure consideration of the Cuban question. . . . The President appoints Whitelaw Reid special ambassador of the United States at the Queen's jubilee. . . . Congressman J. L. McLaurin is appointed United States Senator from South Carolina to succeed the late Mr. Earle. . . . Henry O. Havemeyer is acquitted of contempt of the Senate sugar investigating committee by order of Judge Bradley, Supreme Court, District of Columbia.

The Greek Government sends a memorandum to the powers, protesting against the indemnity demanded by Turkey, and the proposed rectification of the frontier; Russia is said to have notified the Sultan that his demands must be modified . . . The canonization of two saints takes place with imposing ceremonies in St. Peter's, Rome. . . . The Nobel dynamite trust contemplates establishing factories in the United States.

Friday, May 28.

In the Senate (alone in session) Mr. Tillman presents a resolution to investigate charges of sugar speculation by Senators; Chairman Aldrich of the finance committee replies; several tariff schedules are passed. . . . Democratic leaders opposing fusion call a meeting of national committemen at Spokane, June 14. . . . County elections in Virginia decide against a constitutional convention. . . . Secretary Gage of the Treasury Department speaks on tariff and finance in Cincinnati. . . . The State Department receives a protest from the Sultan against the appointment of Mr. Angell as Minister to Turkey. . . . The trial of John E. Searles for contempt of the Senate sugar trust investigating committee begins.

Four Irish members of Parliament are suspended for persisting in an irregular discussion of the financial relations of England and Ireland; the Irish Parliamentary Party decides to take no part in the jubilee celebration. . . . The prospectus for a new Japanese loan is issued in London. . . . Mr. Labouchere says that he will prove charges against Alfred Beit, a former director of the British South Africa Chartered Company, and refuses to retract. . . . The National Bimetallic League meets in Paris; Premier Méline says that France will support the efforts of the United States in the cause.

Saturday, May 29.

In the Senate Democrats attack the plate-glass

Mountains and Seashore.

SUMMER LITERATURE.

Manual of Old Colony Summer Resorts.

Containing a list of Summer Hotels and Boarding-houses within the Old Colony territory; excursion rates, etc. It embodies also a list of villages and points of interest not on the direct line of the Old Colony system, reached by stage or other conveyance. Sent upon receipt of two-cent stamp.

Along the South Shore.

A new booklet devoted to the advantages, situations, etc., of the "South Shore" as an Ocean Summer Resort. It includes all the shore territory lying along the Bay coast south of Boston, or between Braintree and Duxbury inclusive. Sent for two-cent stamp.

Plymouth as a Summer Resort.

A book devoted to the attractions, historic associations and localities, and natural endowments of ancient Plymouth, as of interest to Summer visitors and sojourners. Mailed for two-cent stamp.

Quaint Cape Cod and Its Summer Delights.

"Quaint Cape Cod" presents the claims of that section as a Summer Resort, and affords all information regarding Cape Cod, its localities, scenery, recreative features, etc. Sent on receipt of four cents for postage.

Martha's Vineyard; Its Attractions as a Summer Resort.

Presenting a sketch of the Island of Martha's Vineyard, its towns, villages and summering places. Sent upon receipt of two-cent stamp.

Nantucket, an Island in the Ocean.

Descriptive of Nantucket, its institutions, natural features, attractions, etc., with something of its history and characteristics. Sent on receipt of two-cent stamp.

Handbook of Newport, the "Queen of Watering Places."

Containing general information for visitors concerning walks and drives, location of streets, public parks, grounds, estates, their occupants, etc. Sent for two-cent stamp.

A Sketch of Narragansett Pier.

A folder descriptive of this beautiful section, containing historic and local matter relating thereto, with such information as the visitor or sojourner will find of interest. Mailed for one-cent stamp.

Manual of Summer Resorts on the New Haven System.

Containing a list of hotels, boarding-houses, ticket rates, excursion points, and various information. Mailed on receipt of two-cent stamp.

The Berkshire and Litchfield Hills.

Descriptive of the localities along the Berkshire Division of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R.R.; the natural beauties of the Housatonic River and the country through which it flows. Will be sent for two-cent stamp.

Any of the above will be forwarded on receipt of postage stamps as stated. Mention this magazine and address, O. H. TAYLOR, Gen'l Passenger Agent, Fall River Line, Pier No. 18, North River, New York City; A. C. KENDALL, Gen'l Passenger Agent, N. Y. N. H. & H. R.R., Boston, Mass., or C. T. HEMPSTEAD, Gen'l Passenger Agent, N. Y., N. H. & H. R.R., New Haven, Ct.

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Free to Our Readers.—The New Cure for Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, etc.

As stated in our last issue the new botanical discovery, Alkavis, is proving a wonderful curative in all diseases caused by Uric acid in the blood, or disordered action of the Kidneys and Urinary Organs. The New York *World* publishes the remarkable case of Rev. A. C. Darling, minister of the gospel at North Constantia, N. Y., cured by Alkavis, when, as he says himself, he had lost faith in man and medicine, and was preparing himself for certain death. Similar testimony to this wonderful new remedy comes from others, including many ladies suffering from disorders peculiar to womanhood. The Church Kidney Cure Company, of No. 418 Fourth Avenue, New York, who so far are its only importers, are so anxious to prove its value that for the sake of introduction they will send a free treatment of Alkavis, prepaid by mail, to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who is a Sufferer from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's Disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy, Gravel, Pain in Back, Female Complaints, or other afflictions due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all Sufferers to send their names and address to the Company, and receive the Alkavis free. To prove its wonderful curative powers, it is sent to you entirely free.

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schedule; Mr. Morgan is called to order for criticizing Speaker Reed; the House is not in session. . . . The Michigan legislature adjourns without acting on Governor Pingree's final message. . . . A number of contractors concede demand of garment workers on strike in New York. . . . A statue of Peter Cooper is unveiled in New York. . . . Boat races: Annapolis Cadets defeat University of Pennsylvania; Yale defeats University of Wisconsin.

Lord Salisbury gives a banquet and reception, opening the Queen's jubilee festivities in London. . . . Li Hung Chang sanctions a Belgian loan for railroad construction in China. . . . The restored chapter house of Canterbury cathedral is opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Sunday, May 30.

Memorial Day services are held in many churches. . . . Floods shift the course of the Rio Grande River, cutting off part of the city of El Paso, Tex.

A report in Berlin says that Premier Ralli of Greece is implicated in a conspiracy to overthrow King George. . . . Mussulmans in Crete kill fourteen Christians. . . . Americans in Paris decorate the tomb of Lafayette.

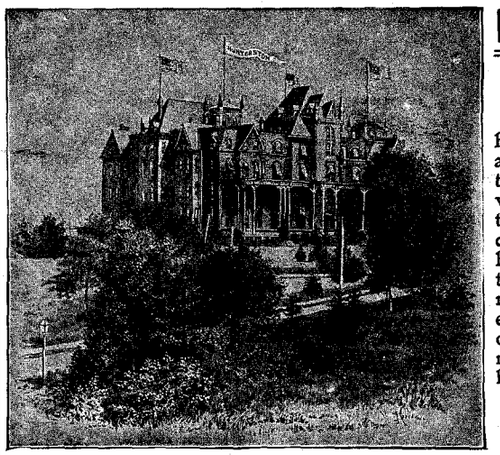
PERSONALS.

"BLIND TOM" IN RETIREMENT.—"Blind Tom, the weak-witted, sightless negro whose phenomenal gifts as a pianist and whose unnatural powers of memory and mimicry were the wonder of the world some years ago, is now a gray-headed, infirm old man living in retirement in a little cottage on the highlands of Navesink, on the New Jersey shore of New York Bay, in charge of Mrs. Eliza Lerche, who was appointed his guardian several years ago. After the death of her first husband, John G. Bethune, who was Tom's manager nearly the entire time he was before the public, there was a long legal struggle between her and her father-in-law, James N. Bethune, who owned Tom and Tom's mother as slaves, and still claimed the sole proprietorship of the musician. Tom had been a valuable piece of property, and had brought him a large income for many years. It is said that he earned several hundred thousands of dollars, and Colonel Bethune naturally objected to losing so lucrative an investment.

"Justice Andrews of the supreme court of New York, to whom the case finally came by appeal, decided that Tom was a free man and permitted him to choose his own guardian, for, altho over fifty years old, he was incapable of caring for himself, and Charity Wiggans, his mother, who still lives in Georgia on the old plantation where Tom was born, declined to accept the responsibility. In fact, Tom did not know his mother. He met her at the trial for the first time since his childhood nearly forty years before, when his musical genius was discovered, and he was taken out for exhibition by his owner. Nor did he have sufficient intelligence to appreciate the relationship, and she, an illiterate negress over seventy, was frightened by his outlandish gibberish and peculiar habits, for when he is away from the piano Blind Tom is a most repulsive animal. He has an abnormal appetite, his passions are strongly developed, and he has no respect for persons or places. He is simply an idiot, and his mother believed him to be possessed of the devil. With the instincts of a child, however, when Tom was made to understand that he must select the person who should care for him, he naturally clung to the lady who had cared for him most of his life, and the court recognized Mrs. Bethune as the natural and proper guardian. Shortly after she married Mr. Lerche, who had been her attorney in the litigation, and her circumstances are such that it is not necessary for Tom to return to the stage. She prefers to support him in idleness, and has him comfortably placed in a cottage under the charge of a negro attendant, who seldom allows him out of his sight.

"It is not probable that Tom will ever appear in public again. Altho his peculiar faculties are retained, his health is feeble, and his mind has weakened with age. He spends much of his time at the piano playing his old pieces and practising new ones, which he picks up as readily as he did years ago. He can repeat with remarkable accuracy any simple composition that is played for him."—*William E. Curtis in The Record, Chicago.*

SENATOR MCLAURIN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—The successor to the late Senator Earle, of South Carolina, is John L. McLaurin, who is promoted from the House of Representatives by appointment of the governor of the state. In accepting the appointment he declared that he favored direct election of Senators by the people and would be glad to abide the decision of a primary in his own case. The New York *Tribune* quotes a prominent South Carolinian as saying: "Some men are born to be lucky in politics. The luckiest man in our country, beyond a doubt, is Congressman John L. McLaurin. When 'Mac,' as we call him, was still a member of the Legislature, he was elected Attorney-General. Before his term in that office expired he was elected to the fifty-second Congress, and now he will leave the House for the Senate by virtue of appointment. Governor Ellerbe could not have done a more popular thing than to name him." Senator McLaurin is 37 years old and has some collegiate education. He attracted special attention in Congress by his stand in favor of protection for southern as well as northern industries, so long as that policy had been established by an election mandate. His sympathies are said to accord with the demand of the Ocala (Populist) and Chicago platforms. To him not long ago was ascribed the remark that "Southern men have lingered and loafed too long round John C. Calhoun's tombstone."



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DR. J. G. CONNER, IONIA, MICH., writes:

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Medical Science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma and Hay-fever in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Congo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, West Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of thirty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair in Hay-fever season, being unable to lie down night or day. The Kola Plant cured him at once. Mr. Alfred C. Lewis, editor of the *Farmer's Magazine*, was also cured when he could not lie down for fear of choking, being always worse in Hay-fever season. Others of our readers give similar testimony, proving it truly a wonderful remedy. If you suffer from Asthma or Hay-fever we advise you to send your address to the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, who to prove its power will send a Large Case by mail free to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who needs it. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. It costs you nothing and you should surely try it.

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CHESS.

All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

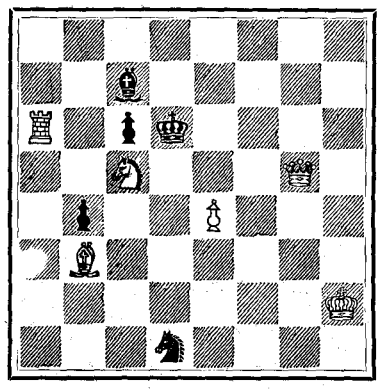
Problem 205.

BY M. LISSNER.

First Prize, *Birmingham Post* Problem Tourney.

Black—Five Pieces.

K on Q 3; B on Q B 2; Kt on Q 8; Ps on Q B 3, Q Kt 5.



White—Six Pieces.

K on K R 2; Q on K Kt 5; B on Q Kt 3; Kt on Q B 5; R on Q R 6; P on K 4.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

LITERARY DIGEST SOLVING TOURNEY.

No. 198. *Author's Solution.*

1. R—K 7 / K—B 7	2. Q—B 4 ch / P x Q	3. Kt-B5 *dbl ch*, mate	
	2. ..... / K—Q 6	3. B x P, mate	
1. ..... / K—B 4	2. Kt—B 4 ch / K—B 3 or Kt 4	3. Kt x P, mate	
	2. ..... / K—K 5	3. Q—Q 4, mate	
1. ..... / P—B 7	2. Q—K 2 ch / K—B 4	3. Q—B 3, mate	
1. ..... / P—Q 5 or other move	2. Kt—Kt 5 ch / Moves	3. Mates acc.	

No. 199. *Author's Solution.*

1. Kt—Q 5 / P—K 5	2. Kt x P / K—B 4	3. Q x P, mate	
	2. ..... / B x Kt	3. R x B, mate	
	2. ..... / Any other	3. Q—Q 7, mate	
1. ..... / Kt—Kt 4	2. Q—B 8 ch / K x Kt	3. P—K 4, mate	
1. ..... / K—B 4	2. Q—R 7 ch / K—K 3	3. Kt—B 7, mate	
	2. ..... / K—Kt 5	3. R—Kt sq, mate	
1. ..... / Kt—B 8	2. R x Kt / B—B 5	3. R x P, mate	
	2. ..... / Any other	3. Q—B 7, mate	
1. ..... / Kt—Kt 5	2. R—K 8 / K—B 4	3. Q—R 7, mate	
	2. ..... / B—K 6 etc.	3. R x P, mate	
1. ..... / Any other move	2. P—K 4 / Moves	3. Mates acc.	

Solution of both problems received from "Spifficator," New York City; V. Abraham, Cincinnati; the Rev. W. R. Furman, Providence, R. I.; Otto Würzburg, Grand Rapids, Mich.; G. A. Humpert, St. Louis; Dr. H. W. Fannin, Hackett, Ark.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia.; R. D. Tompkins, St. Louis; Ad. F. Rheim, New Ulm, Minn.; M. P. Quintaña, Albany; C. Herzberg, Brooklyn; L. Hirsch, Brooklyn; R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; M. W. H., University of Virginia; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; J. S. Smith, Linneus, Mo.; H. Ketcham, Vergennes, Vt.; Dr. J. B. Trowbridge, Hayward, Wis.; J. O. Villars, Wilmington, O.; the Rev. A. Taylor. Fair Haven, Vt.; the Rev. H. W. Knox, Belmont, N. Y.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; R. S. Biedermann, Kendallville, Ind.; Dr. Wattam, Warren, Minn.; C. Lemon, New York City; O. Fischer, Harriman, Tenn.; W. M. Washburn, La.

F. M. Osterhout, Factoryville, Pa., C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia., Mrs. Wright, Tate, Ga., sent solution of 198. M. A. S., Easton, Pa., of 199.

Several of our best solvers, while sending solution, did not enter the Tourney as competitors.

MR. PULITZER'S REPORT.

"I have carefully examined all solutions sent me of Problems Nos. 198 and 199 of THE LITERARY DIGEST Solving Tourney, and after mature consideration I have decided that those sent by 'Spifficator,' New York City, are the most meritorious, and he is therefore entitled to the prize (a copy of 'Chess Harmonies'), which I offered for the best all-round solution of both problems.

"I give these reasons: Among the half-dozen best solutions received of both 198 and 199 his were the *first* received; his review of the latter was altogether the most original and apt, and his comments on the former were among the best. From an expert's point of view his solutions may leave much to be desired, but, at all events, they are free from error, and besides possess certain merits which the majority of the others lack. He was, however, hard pressed by a few other solvers. The most exhaustive solution and best review of 198 was sent by Victor Abraham, but his work on 199 fell short. The best analysis of 198 (*i.e.*, an exposition of the *raison d'être* of all the pieces) came from Otto Würzburg, but he failed to comment, and his solution of 199 was inferior to his solution of 198. After these, in the order of merit, I should mention the letters of the Rev. Wm. R. Furman, F. H. Johnston, R. D. Tompkins, and Ad. F. Rheim. Quite a number of solvers sent an exhaustive solution of the problems (and for the most part correct) bnt tripped up over certain variations. In 199 many overlooked White's reply of 2 Q—B 8 ch if Black plays 1 Kt—Kt 4. Altogether, a little over sixty solutions were received, of which number only about ten were wholly bad. On the other hand but eleven solvers sent solutions covering both problems that stood the search-light of minute examination. 'Spifficator' has my congratulations.

"WALTER PULITZER."

"SPIFFLICATOR'S" ANALYSIS.

(*Slightly abridged.*)

No. 198 is an extraordinary conception. At first sight, even to an experienced solver, it appears as if the R *must* remain on the B's file. Several fine problems, indeed, could be educed from the position with slight changes:—for instance,

1. Kt—Q 4 / P x Kt; 2. R—B 4 ch / K—K 4; 3. Q x P, mate

1. Kt—B 4 / P x Kt; the same, *et sequitur*.

Again 1. Kt—B 4 / B x R; 2. Kt—R 3 / Any other move except B—K 3, or P—Q 5, and we have mate by Kt—B 2, or Q—K 2.

The happiest conception, however, and it is a splendid variation, is:

1. R—K 7 / K—B 7	2. Q—B 4 ch! / P x Q	3. Kt—B 5, mate	
	2. ..... / K—Q 6	3. B x P, mate!!	

I extend my heartiest congratulations to the author of 198, and am hungry for more mental pabulum of the same kind.

No. 199 exemplifies, in a striking manner, the difference between a finely constructed problem and an end-game. Any one, playing over the board, would move P—K 4. And, but for the Black cavalry so admirably posted on the flanks, that play would give mate within the required number of moves. Either Kt, however, renders the P move nugatory. The problem evinces Chess-strategy in a brilliant degree, and proves that the author is a problemist second to none. The construction is beautiful, there are few pieces, and not a superfluous piece on the board. Even after I had solved it in several variations, I could not see the use of the R on K sq, and Kt—B sq seemed to estop me. The other Kt, too, was a poser, by its trotting out the K—Kt 5. I confess that it caused some confusion in camp, until I perceived that he threatened in vain, and had, in fact, committed *felo de se*, but cutting off his communications, and allowed the little foot-soldier to give the *coup de grace*. The White Kt covers himself with glory in the variation—

1. Kt—Q 5 / K—B 4; 2. Q—R 7 ch / K—K 3; 3. Kt—B 7, mate

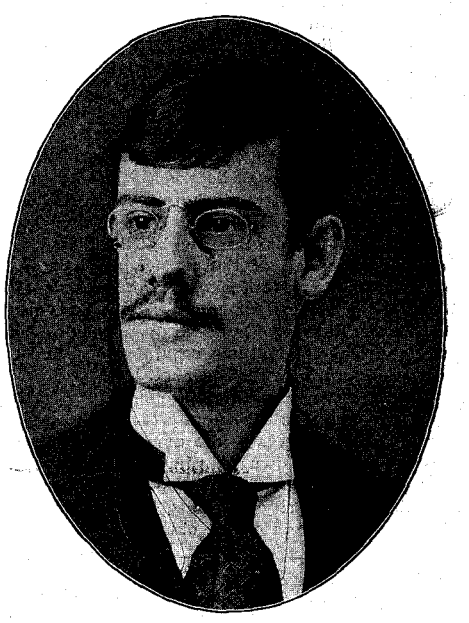
SOLVERS' COMMENTS.

No. 198.

"A beautiful conception," V. Abraham; "If the Grecian generals co-operated like that, Grecian courage would be matched by Grecian efficiency," W. R. Furman; "Mating positions arising from Black .., Kt—B 7 are as fine as anything I ever saw," R. D. Tompkins; "The maneuvering of the Kt is superb," H. W. Knox; "An admirable study, illustrating the power of the Kt," F. H. Johnston; "Marvellous composition—brilliant variations," Dr. Frick; "One of the finest three-movers I have seen for many years," H. W. Fannin; "A very fine problem," M. W. H.; "A masterpiece," J. O. Villars; "A Chess-nut, indeed," R. W. Biedermann; "Splendid problem," F. S. Ferguson; "Remarkably fine," H. Ketcham; "Combination very shrewdly arranged," J. W. Trowbridge; "The Queen's cheerful sacrifice of herself is startling," J. S. Smith; "Variations like the colors of the rainbow," R. J. Moore.

No. 199

"Exhibits original train of thought," V. Abraham; "Remarkable for false scents," W. R. Furman; "White K creates play in an ingenious manner," O. Würzburg; "Most ingenious three-mover," R. D. Tompkins; "An intellectual treat," F. H. Johnston; "Fine Chess-strategy," Dr. Fannin; "The little P on K 4! How innocent he seems, and how full of mischief he is," Ad. F. Rheim; "Twelve pure mates—variations delightful," M. P. Quintaña; "A gem," Dr. Frick; "Three solid hours of hard thinking." L. Hirsch.



WALTER PULITZER.

Author of "Chess Harmonies."

We believe that all who take an interest in problems, and especially those who solved 198 and 199, will be glad to see what Walter Pulitzer looks like.

The author of "Chess Harmonies" was born in New York city in 1874, a very young man to have won such distinction in the Problem-Art. In the summer of 1890, being an expert in lawn tennis, he overtrained or over-exerted himself to such a degree that he brought on a nervous trouble which made him almost a chronic invalid. During his invalidism, Dr. L. D. Broughton, Chess-Editor of the Brooklyn *Standard Union*, advised him to take up the study of Chess as a mental recreation, and the result is that Mr. Pulitzer now ranks among the great problemists of the world. From the Preface of "Chess Harmonies" we quote his views on Problem-making:

"The art principles laid down and prescribed by critics like Lowell and Ruskin may (in the main) be said to apply equally and with as much truth and directness to the art of problem-construction as to any other art. Altho I admit intricacy of theme and beauty of design and general harmony of ideas and conception to be very desirable quantities in the problem, still I do not consider them indispensable quantities. I am inclined to attach so much importance to 'construction' in itself that even if a problem be commonplace and uninteresting, so long as the constructive laws have been followed out, the result, in my opinion, is as much a 'composition' as anything, and, indeed, a more legitimate work than a crudely executed 'inspiration.'"

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